

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. IX.—NEW SERIES, No. 164.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1849.

[PRICE 6d

WHITTINGTON CLUB and METROPOLITAN ATHENEUM, 189, Strand.

On Thursday Evening next (to-morrow), January 4, 1849, GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq., M.P., will deliver the FIRST of a COURSE of THREE LECTURES ON THE VALUE AND IMPORTANCE OF INDIA AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE EMPIRE OF GREAT BRITAIN, and will continue the same on the succeeding Thursdays until completed. To commence at Eight o'clock.

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189, Strand, December 29th, 1848.

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Friday Evening, Jan. 12, 1849. Chair to be taken by the Rev. F. A. COX, D.D., LL.D.

Monday Evening, Jan. 15, 1849. Chair to be taken by FREDERICK CLARKE, Esq.

Friday Evening, Jan. 19, 1849. Chair to be taken by the Rev. J. W. MASSIE, D.D.

Monday Evening, Jan. 22, 1849. Chair to be taken by the Rev. T. AVELING.

Friday Evening, Jan. 26, 1849. Chair to be taken by the Rev. C. DUKES, A.M.

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HALSE'S LETTERS ON MEDICAL GALVANISM.

LETTER III.

GALVANISM A POWERFUL REMEDY IN

CASES OF INDIGESTION.—When we lose power in a limb we know that the nerve which leads from the spine to the limb has ceased to perform its functions; the nerve is paralysed, the muscles to which it leads are paralysed, and as a necessary consequence, the limb which possesses those muscles is paralysed also. Arouse the nerve from its morbid state, so that it may transmit nervous influence to the muscle, and the nerve is no longer paralysed. It will sound very strange to say that in cases of indigestion the stomach is paralysed, but such is, nevertheless, the fact. It is the nervous fluid which gives strength to the muscles of the stomach; the secretion of gastric juice depends entirely on the supply of this fluid to the stomach. Cut off the supply of this fluid by dividing the nerves, and the strength of the limb is gone—the power of digestion has ceased.

This is no theory; it is founded on fact; for that eminent physiologist Dr. Wilson Phillip, made experiments on animals while left no doubt on the subject. The nerves which supply the stomach with nervous influence arise from the top of the spine; they are called the eighth pair, and if they are divided so as to prevent the passage of the nervous fluid, it is found that digestion ceases on the instant. Now the doctor has long entertained the opinion that the galvanic fluid and the nervous fluid were identical; and he concluded that, if he could continue the process of digestion by sending a current of galvanism through the divided nerves, there could be no longer any doubt that Galvanism was capable of performing the same functions as the nervous fluid itself, when acting on the living body. The experiment was made, and the result was, that digestion went on fully as well in the stomach of a dog (the eighth pair of nerves being divided as above), by means of a supply of galvanic fluid to the stomach, as if the nerves had been left in a perfect state. For the particulars of this experiment I refer my readers to Dr. Wilson Phillip's work, entitled, "An Inquiry into the Laws of the Vital Functions."

Invalids will now understand why Galvanism is such a powerful remedy in cases of indigestion. It acts in two ways: it first arouses the dormant nerves into action, and then supplies those nerves with that of which they are deficient, viz. the nervous fluid. I can conscientiously state that in this complaint I succeeded nineteen times out of twenty, and even after every other remedy has been tried in vain. On some patients the effects of Galvanism in this complaint are really astonishing; for, after two or three operations, the oppression and uneasiness after eating have vanished, acrid eructations no longer exist, appetite returns, refreshing sleep is welcomed, the depression of spirits has ceased, and the sallowness of the complexion is succeeded by the rosy tinge of health. That indigestion is now quite a fashionable complaint is well known; but were the great power of Galvanism in this complaint equally well known, there would not be a gentleman's house in the whole kingdom without an efficient galvanic apparatus. In my former letter I stated, that in old standing cases of paralysis I as frequently failed as succeeded. This is a fact; still I contend that Galvanism should be resorted to in the most desperate cases of paralysis, for if it does not cure the patient of this complaint, it will wonderfully improve the general health.

Many there are to whom I have supplied my Portable Galvanic Apparatus who have informed me that, although not much benefit could be noticed in their long-standing paralytic complaint, yet it was astonishing how the general health had improved—how they were now enabled to do without medicine—how very much better they slept—how the nervousness had left them, &c. The fact is, Galvanism increased the digestive powers, and hence the reason of the improved state of health. Invalids who may wish to be supplied with my efficient Portable Apparatus may address a line to me, and I will send them all particulars. The most unscientific will not have the least trouble in using it.

WM. H. HALSE, Professor of Medical Galvanism, 22, Brunswick-square, London.

GALVANISM.—Invalids are solicited to send to Mr. W. H. HALSE, for his pamphlet on MEDICAL GALVANISM, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. In it will be found the particulars of cures in cases of asthma, rheumatism, sciatica, tic douloureux, paralysis, spinal complaints, headaches, deficiency of nervous energy, liver complaints, general debility, indigestion, stiff joints, all sorts of nervous disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the galvanic fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensation; in fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, One Guinea per week.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. IX.—NEW SERIES, No. 164.]

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ADDRESS TO THE READERS.

SINCE the publication of the first number of the *Nonconformist*, on the 14th of April, 1841, the prosecution of the enterprise for which it was set on foot has brought us into personal contact with not a few of its readers in different parts of the country, and has given us a fuller knowledge, and a juster estimate, than is usual, of the character of the circle to whom we address ourselves. Recollection calls them up at this instant, one by one to our mind's eye, and they stand ranged before us a numerous band. Often, in presence of any one of them, we have felt abashed at the thought, that our weekly lucubrations, often hurriedly thrown off, sometimes pronouncing judgment on questions of great delicacy, and always more or less open to exception in the view of some minds, should pass under the eye of so many men whose qualifications for furthering the work we have undertaken appear so superior to our own. Now, when, in fancy, they are all before us, and behind them, a crowd of constant readers, whose acquaintance we have not yet had the happiness of making, we feel oppressed with emotions to which we can give but imperfect utterance.

If ever journalist had reason to be grateful to his friends, we have. Looking back upon the course we have pursued, upon the number of topics upon which we have written, the favourite opinions against which our remarks must occasionally have jarred, the controversies in which we have been engaged, the censure we have felt it our duty to administer, the mistakes we may have made, and the infirmities we have exhibited, we are surprised at the amount of forbearance displayed towards us. Seldom, indeed, have we been worried with complaints which, nevertheless, we may have done much to provoke. A cheering word from such as sympathize with us, is more familiar to our experience than the rebukes of such as may have seen reason to disapprove. Other journals have appeared at intervals, advocating the same principles with ourselves, but the supporters of the *Nonconformist* have remained steady and true to its interests. If we have seen less of popularity, we have also felt less of fluctuation, than many. We are now commencing our ninth volume, under auspices which flatter us with the hope that we have not yet tired out old friends. Our reward has far exceeded our consciousness of merit. We have won more support, and heartier, than we had dared to anticipate. That we are deeply thankful, we hope our readers will believe. May our future efforts express the fulness of our gratitude!

It has been our fortunate task to commend to the hearts of our readers a principle, which when trusted and loved, evermore elicits confidence and affection for its sincere advocates. They who most thoroughly understand the message we have engaged to deliver, are best prepared to extend candour, and display indulgence, towards him who delivers it—as the herald of pleasing tidings receives in the guerdon bestowed upon him, a token of the gladness and gratitude which those tidings have created. Not what we have been able to do, but the noble truth on whose behalf we have attempted to do anything, has secured for the *Nonconformist* its circle of warm-hearted friends. We are thoroughly sensible of this, and, we believe, shall continue to be so. Our rays, such as they are, are borrowed ones—we shine in the light of the doctrine we aspire to teach. The kind consideration we enjoy, we owe entirely to the glory of the end we are striving to achieve. If we know our own interests, therefore, we shall make it our highest ambition to be faithful to our trust. In our sense of the worth and beauty and power of the principle whose triumph we seek, our readers have the surest pledge of our devotedness to our work, and we possess the strongest guarantee of a more than adequate reward.

We are now commencing another year—destined, perhaps, to be as eventful as that which has just closed. Our best wishes for you, gentle readers, from its first day till its last! In the relationship in which we stand to you, we would fain make the year one both of pleasure and of profit. Still let us claim your indulgence, and still we will give you such as we are able to give. The cause which we, in common with yourselves, have near our hearts, is passing into a new and most interesting phase. We are about to watch together its fresh developments; and, as far as our instrumentality can reach, to assist them. For ourselves, in proportion as Providence seems to be ripening for solution the great problem of the age, and bringing within view that settlement which will emancipate Christianity from State bondage, we feel a deeper solemnity steal over our spirits, and a more sensitive jealousy lest any ill-considered step on the part of those who long to witness the victory of Christian willinghood should tend, in any measure, to impede its progress. Happily, the movement is in the hands of One who can turn even folly itself to His own account, and can make all human mistakes tributary to His design. In His overruling wisdom let us repose unwavering confidence, and cheerfully address ourselves to fulfil the duties of another year!

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE WORKING MEN AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

WE cannot, perhaps, more fitly open the present volume of the *Nonconformist*, than with a few thoughts upon a subject which, of late, has occupied a prominent place in our columns—the comparative inaptness and impotency of existing religious institutions to tell upon the minds of the working classes of this country. We had meant to have postponed our remarks until the close of the correspondence which we have invited on this question. Fearing, however, that the opening of Parliament may thrust matters of more immediate interest before us—knowing that we shall require, for the satisfactory utterance of our opinions, con-

siderably more space than can be conveniently allotted to a single article—and discerning no good reason which should preclude the simultaneous appearance of our own remarks and those of others, we deem it best so far to change our original plan as will allow of our dismissing the subject, if need be, at the end of the present month. Till then, a portion of our columns will continue open to our friends for the discussion of this question—and till then, it is our purpose to offer to our readers, with each number, some reflections of our own.

First, as to the facts of the case. Possibly, too much has been taken for granted—deeper shadows have been thrown into the picture than the actual condition of things will warrant. Some persons call for statistics—others, for an elaborate comparison of the present with past ages. We deem such labour needless. Common observation, we think, will sufficiently assure us of one broad melancholy truth—that the number of working men under the influence of our religious institutions, or in visible connexion with them, does not, in England, bear the same proportion to the middle and upper classes as that which prevails in society at large. There are local exceptions, of course—wide distinctions to be kept in view—cities will differ much from villages—sea-ports and watering-places from manufacturing towns. But, on the whole, we believe there cannot be a reasonable doubt, that upon that large section of the social body passing under the designation of "working men," the means and appliances kept in action by existing ecclesiastical bodies, have not produced effect, in the same ratio, as upon the middle classes. Worshipping congregations do not exhibit, in regard to this matter, a fair resemblance of the busy world. The recipients of weekly wages, the most numerous class of our countrymen, do not maintain their relative proportion in the houses of God. The fact may not be a novel one—the only novelty about it may be, that it attracts general attention—but that it is a fact, as thus broadly stated, few, we think, will venture to deny.

And it is a most melancholy fact. The wonder is that it has not long since alarmed religious men, and put them upon anxious inquiry as to its causes. It speaks more loudly than any other in tones of reproof to our churches. It displays failure just where success was most to be desired—where it seemed most likely—where it would have been most fruitful. Human nature, it is true, is human nature under all circumstances—and one soul, absolutely considered, is of equal value with another. But there are some social conditions which favour a fuller and manlier development of Christianity than others—some men, and classes of men, a conquest of whose hearts by the truth would do more for it and for the church, than an equal amount of success over others. The working men of this country are not only worth winning. They are to be won as readily as any other class, perhaps more readily. They must be won, unless we are prepared to see religion expire amongst us of very feebleness. They cannot be won without bringing to the cause which gains them a freshness, a vigour, an earnestness, and an activity of spirit, such as will constitute a new era in the history of the gospel.

Moral truths—truths which form the character and mould the will of men, gradually lose much of their efficacy, when confined for a length of time to any single class. Like plants, they need a change of soil in order to continuous vigour. We have no reason to suppose Christianity exempted from this law—subjectively, its growth and fruit will be affected by those influences which invariably operate in other cases. The great message from God, the good news to the world, will always remain the same—its effects upon those who receive it will be modified by their individual temperament and social condition. British Christianity is essentially the Christianity developed by a middle-class soil. And, as such, its vitality is becoming impaired—its power sensibly decays. We see nothing to be surprised at in this—nothing unusual. The position of the class, their social tastes, their habits of

thought, their standards of judgment, have been, generation after generation, acquiring consistency, inflexibility—and as years roll on, will probably become more and more impervious to any truth that would refashion them. Within the laws which acquire increasing power over them, religion will develop itself—but, speaking of them as a class, that is all. But for some extraneous change—a change which we have no doubt is coming—Christianity, we think, has less ground for hope in them, than in the working men. It is fast degenerating among them from a living power to a lifeless form—from a principle to a sentiment—from an inward motive to an outward profession. It is sinking into a routine of devotional exercises, the effects of which terminate with themselves. It puts orthodoxy in the place of reverence for truth—and substitutes pecuniary subscriptions for active personal exertion. It is an agency to be worked pretty exclusively by ministers. It builds up “interests,” instead of grappling with evils. It aspires to be genteel, rather than irresistible. Its love of justice is not allowed to make a disturbance at home—if it wants play, it must go to a distance. Its charity prefers foreign objects. Taking it “for all in all,” it strikes one as an almost impenetrable mass of conventionalism—not positively dead, but completely overlaid—sickly, fanciful, feminine—as an existence dwindling into nominalism—as a life, fast decaying—as a power, all but void of efficiency. Of course there are exceptions—but, in the main, we fear, such is the religionism of the middle classes of our times.

On the other hand we have the great body of working men—a rich soil—but in respect of Christianity nearly uncultivated—in its principal characteristics presenting a strong contrast with the social class next above it. There are varieties among working men, as there are in every other section of the community—but they are not such as to exclude common points of resemblance—individualities of feature and expression, consistent, however, with a strong family likeness. A shrewd perception, capable of detecting at a glance the best attired shams—a practical common sense which fixes its estimate of things by what they do rather than by what they express—an independence which spurns at mere authority—an energy which even poverty can hardly tame—a kindness of heart hidden beneath a rough homeliness of manner—a patient endurance which can stand the severest tests—and a familiarity with personal toil as the only means to an end—these constitute the raw material of character with the working men. We see them now, save in special instances, in a disadvantageous light. The ground is encumbered by rank weeds. Bring it under cultivation—sow it with revealed truth—reclaim it by wise and diligent efforts for Christianity—and we shall see a more glorious development of religious worth, than our country has yet witnessed.

In truth, the interest of the churches is as much concerned in winning the working men, as that of the working men in being won. When the gospel has succeeded in fusing into one the two classes, a new vigour will be imparted to the cause of truth and right. Both will lose much of the evil which cleaves to them—the one its childish veneration for gentility, the other its rude repudiation of refinement—this, its conventionalism, that, its contempt of appearances—the first, its creeping timidity, the last, its recklessness. Thoroughly amalgamated, we believe they would put forth a well-disciplined energy, before which every obstacle would soon give way—a moral power which would prove irresistible. Nor would this be all. Christianity would be studied from other points of view. Neglected mines of wealth would be discovered by the application of fresh habits and objects of research. Our interpretation of truth would be dragged out of the deep and well-worn ruts in which it has so long moved. Unanticipated combinations of spiritual laws would be evolved—antique misapprehensions would be removed—and faith, and love, and zeal, bursting through old incrustations of prejudice and habit, would find for themselves fresh channels of usefulness.

The importance of the question, then, to which our attention is directed can hardly be overrated. What stands in the way of this “consummation devoutly to be wished?” Whence arises the indifference of the masses to that system of truth which would most befriend them, socially, intellectually, morally, and spiritually? To this question we shall address ourselves in two or three successive papers.

EDITORIAL COMPLIMENTS.—The *Church and State Gazette*, in its ill-humour at Mr. Noel's crushing exposure of the State Church, falls foul of ourselves in true Billingsgate style. The *Nonconformist* is, it seems, “prayer-hating,”—“a paper infamous to the very end of time,”—“a paper which recommends spoliation—which strikes at the Throne through the Church—which spits at prayer, and which makes nice of no vile aid whereby Church and Throne are to be alike smashed, and Dissent grow fat upon property evilly acquired.” Fie, Mr. Editor! What class of readers must you have to believe such rancorous balderdash?

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

HORNCastle.—On Thursday, the 21st December, this town was visited by J. Kingsley, Esq., B.A., as a deputation from the Anti-state-church Association. The clerical influence is mighty here. In fact, the town may be said to be under “parsons’ sway.” Yet, notwithstanding, a numerous and respectable audience came together, and for upwards of one hour and a half the lecturer elicited the attention and applause of the assembly whilst stating the objects sought by the Society, and exposing the evils resulting from the connexion of the Church with the State. As this subject was a novel one here, no meetings of the kind having taken place previously, with the exception of a course of lectures delivered by Henry Vincent, Esq., during the autumn of the past year, the major part of the assembly, we presume, were scarcely prepared for the statements made by the lecturer: we surmise that some would resemble those philosophers and Epicureans that Paul had to withstand at Athens, who brought him before Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new doctrine whereof thou speakest is? for thou bringest certain strange things to our ears; we would know, therefore, what these things mean.” This meeting will doubtless lead to inquiry on a question long dormant, and we hope to vigorous practical effort. A committee has been formed in connexion with the parent Society.—*From a Correspondent.*

RUGBY.—SOWING THE SEED.—On Friday evening last, the Rev. Mr. Bayley, of Birkenhead, delivered a lecture in the St. Matthew's schoolroom upon “The Difference of Doctrine between the Church of Rome and the Church of England,” to a numerous audience. At the conclusion of the lecture, a boy distributed tracts very liberally to the assembly as they departed. The Rev. T. Page, incumbent of St. Matthew's church, on making his appearance, had a few of these tracts placed in his hands. He went back into the room to see the nature of the publication that had been so freely given away, when the truth flashed upon his mind, that the whole of his congregation had been well supplied with the “stubborn truth of the Nonconformists” in their “Tracts for the Millions.” Mr. Page finding it too late to prevent the mischief, became greatly excited, and after tearing the tracts to pieces, seized the boy, and declared he would take him before a magistrate—the next moment, he would horsewhip him. He then called vehemently to his clerk, to come and “hold the rascal,” while he went for the police;—altogether, it presented one of the most ludicrous spectacles ever seen in Rugby. It may be well to inform Mr. Page (says our correspondent) that however inveterate he may be against those who differ from him in religious tenets, there is most certainly a regular campaign commenced in Rugby against the connexion of religion with the State. The Society's tracts are distributed through the town, and a lecture is very likely to be given soon to explain the views of the Anti-state-church Society.—*Leicester Mercury.*

RHYMNEY.—The first public lecture on the separation of religion from State control, was delivered at this place on the evening of last Christmas-day, by the Rev. J. Price. The subjects of the discourse were, the history, objects, and the justice of the claims of the Anti-state-church Association—the probabilities that separation will take place, and its probable consequences. The meeting was very numerous attended. The Rev. Vicar of Rhymney was present, with a short-hand writer, who was employed by the Rev. Vicar. This place is an iron-work district, the population being above 12,000. When Mr. Miall will next visit South Wales an effort will be made to have him to Rhymney. Some of the young men belonging to the Rev. J. Price's congregation offered to present him henceforth with the *Nonconformist* newspaper, which offer was thankfully accepted by Mr. Price.—*From a Correspondent.*

HALIFAX.—(From a Correspondent.)—Our readers will recollect, that, in November last, the local Committee of the British Anti-state-church Association commenced a series of lectures. The first was delivered by the Rev. S. Whitewood, Baptist minister, in the school-room of Square Chapel, the oldest Independent place of worship in the town. The second lecture was to have been delivered on the 12th ult., by the Rev. J. W. Ridley, of the Methodist New Connexion; but that day fell during the West Riding Election, and the lecture was necessarily postponed. It is now, however, fixed for Tuesday next, the 9th inst., in the Particular Baptist school-room. Other lectures, by ministers of different denominations, are to follow, once a month; and a public meeting, attended by a deputation from London, is to be held in the town in the spring. It is hoped that the Rev. John Burnet, whose absence from the last public meeting, was the source of so much disappointment, will be present on the occasion referred to. The late contest for the West Riding has given an impetus to Anti-state-church principles in this neighbourhood, and many of the staunch Nonconformists are purchasing freholds, that they may have votes for the Riding at another election.

IRISH “REGIUM DONUM” AND IRISH CHRISTIAN WILLINGHOOD.

(From the United Presbyterian Magazine.)

A document of considerable interest, as illustrating by contrast the working of *Regium Donum* in Ireland, has been kindly transmitted to us from

Belfast. It is the first annual report of the sustentation fund committee in connexion with the “Eastern Reformed Presbyterian Church.” This body, consisting of ten churches, situated chiefly in Ulster, has maintained a noble testimony for the truth, by refusing to participate in the bribe which has so long fettered and enervated Irish Presbyterianism; and, more recently, it has rendered its testimony very distinct and emphatic by declaring, in 1847, that “to force men to support the religion of Jesus is a gross insult offered to our blessed Redeemer;” and that “this insult is greatly aggravated when solemnly sanctioned by act of Parliament. It is iniquity established by law.” In working out this principle, the ministers not only gave up the legal claim which they had on their respective congregations—resolving to trust in their Christian liberality alone—but agreed also to abandon the practice of seat-rents and other assessments, and to receive their several stipends from a common fund, the result of contributions obtained by voluntary collectors appointed for the purpose in the different churches. The congregations each promised to raise a certain sum toward this fund; and though the promise was made “when (says the report) the potato failure had only made its appearance, and though the contributions have been paid during a year of unparalleled calamity in this country—a year of famine, pestilence, and death—yet the amount received has fallen short of the amount promised only £5 4s. 11d.” From the common treasury, each minister received £80 the first year—a sum which, honestly come by, will bear comparison with the income of the Synod of Ulster ministers, eked out though that be by the pension of the Government. The value of this fund, as a manifestation of Christian liberality, is exhibited in the report in a striking point of view:—“If we take the number of communicants in the ten congregations to be 1,400 (which is fully the number), the contributions will amount to 10s. 6d. for each communicant; and if we take these 1,400 communicants to represent 700 families, and the families at an average of five members each, it will give 3,500 persons in connexion with our church. The total sum contributed by this number being £735 5s. 11d., would make an average contribution of 4s. for each individual adherent—an average sum, which, we believe, has not been exceeded by the contributions of any body of Christians in the present day.” The Irish Wesleyans raised in 1847, for each communicant 7s.; for each adherent 2s. 8d. But Wesleyanism throughout Ireland is scarcely to be compared, in point of ability to contribute for the support of religion, with Presbyterianism in Ulster. Let us then extend the comparison to the *Regium Donum* Presbyterians. A Government report of June, 1847, respecting the “General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland,” gives the number of congregations as 451, paying altogether for stipend £18,441, or about £40 a-year each; families, 86,450; population, 432,250; average payment by each individual, 10½d.—forty-one farthings a-year. Adding the amount raised for missions, the average contribution for religious purposes for each member, is 2s. 9d.; or, for each adherent, 1s. 1d. Here, then, is the result of the public bounty granted to Irish Presbyterianism. The £36,000 annually voted to the Irish assembly for the advancement of Christianity, turns out to be a hindrance to true religion—an incubus on its exertions, an opiate to its graces: and all this besides its being the fruit of legal extortion, and the apology, which statesmen, planning for the endowment of the Man of Sin, can plead against all the exhortations of Irish Presbyterians—the body which many had been accustomed to regard as pre-eminently set for the defence of Protestantism in Ireland.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER AGAIN.—That afflicted man, the Bishop of Exeter, has again been in trouble. The Church Missionary Society having held a meeting in Honiton, the numbers present were so great that the room overflowed, and an adjournment took place to the church. Not many hours had elapsed before the Rev. V. H. P. Somerset, the incumbent, who had thus desecrated the edifice, was called to account by his disquieted diocesan—went down upon his knees—and was forgiven. He has been obliged, however, to make “public reparation” for the “public scandal” by publishing a letter of admonition addressed to him by the bishop, in which his lordship says:—“That the organ was played and psalms [were] sung, does not appear to me to have at all improved the case. On the contrary, it made the church to be, for the time, a conventicle—as the meeting itself made it a public hall.” Mr. Somerset, as he swallowed his humiliation, must have thought of the old adage, that “one man may steal a sheep, and another may not look over the hedge.” The bishop, who patronizes musical festivals, snubs the incumbent of Honiton for suffering a missionary meeting in his church; and Mr. Maskell, the bishop's chaplain, preaches Romish doctrines before his lordship—prints the discourse at his request—and receives not a whisper of reproof—although Dr. Phillpotts admits, in reply to a clerical memorial, that the views promulgated by his chaplain are Popish and unsound. Nor do we find that censure has descended upon a certain other priest of the diocese of Exeter, who, having set aside, as “uncanonical,” a porcelain font presented by a lady, refused to permit its restoration to the donor; because, having been used for sacred, it ought not to be put to secular purposes; and he therefore gave orders that it should be interred in consecrated earth! But the Rev. T. H. Hawker, of Plymouth, if he be in the bishop's power, may hardly escape so easily. He may prepare himself for exhibition

in a "white sheet." Exasperated, apparently, by an attack made upon his late father, he pens an epistle to the Right Reverend Doctor, equally remarkable for boldness and bad taste, and concludes with wishing him a "speedy translation" to the "vacant see of Rome!"—where, certainly, his lordship would have, just now, an ample opportunity of indulging in his favourite element—"hot water!"—*Gateshead Observer.*

THE ANNUITY-TAX.—The Government inquiry regarding the Annuity-tax has not had the effect of suppressing agitation *in toto*. A shopkeeper having delayed payment of last year's rate, was taken to prison, but was liberated in the course of the day, on giving a cheque for the amount. Other recusants have given in, but not until the appearance of the officer at their doors; and, in fine, it seems evident that unless a large measure of reform be granted, the agitation will be scotched, not killed. Notice has been given of a motion in the town council, that the Edinburgh and Montrose clergy should be paid out of the unexhausted teinds; but it is not probable that other large towns would agree to this, as the mere fact of special ecclesiastical imposts being levied in these two places only, does not prove that in them exclusively Church burdens are felt to be onerous.—*Edinburgh Correspondent of the Daily News.*

ECCLIASTICAL PROPERTY.—We understand that a new commission is contemplated to inquire into the state of the law respecting the letting and management of ecclesiastical property, with a view to legislation on this important subject. The matters to be investigated are of themselves of a sufficiently extensive and complicated nature to require the deepest attention; and the persons selected for the task will not at all interfere with the duties or the construction of the Ecclesiastical Commission, but will be employed upon a field of labour and inquiry entirely distinct. It is well known that complaints have been incessantly made from various sources of the mismanagement of church and college estates, the greater part of which is to be attributed to the state of the law, which has remained, with scarce any change, what it was in the days of Elizabeth, and which not only impedes improvement, but holds out too many temptations to abuse. The short terms of leases given by bishops and other dignitaries of the Church, and by ecclesiastical corporations, were in themselves the greatest obstacles to any beneficial outlay on these properties, whilst even the short period of three years or twenty years' lease was often turned to improper account; and a nominal rent only (with large fines) demanded from tenants thus favoured.—*Observer.*

MR. NOEL'S BOOK.—We understand, from a correspondent, that "the work has been some time in the hands of the publisher, and that the greatest secrecy was to be observed in passing it through the press: proofs were to be forwarded under seal: the name of the author unknown: and its proposed time of issue was about Midsummer, 1849. When, however, the secession of the honourable and reverend gentleman became known, it was found essential that the book should appear immediately. Accordingly, the volume, containing between six hundred and seven hundred pages, passed through the press in the short space of fourteen days!—perhaps, the most rapid performance ever achieved in the book-printing art."—*Church and State Gazette.*

"THE GOLDEN LECTURE."—The Rev. Dr. Dale has resigned one of his appointments, known as the "Golden Lectureship," a post, the emoluments of which are about £500 a year, and the duties one sermon a week, delivered on Tuesdays, at one of the churches near the Royal Exchange. There are already three candidates for the appointment—first, the Rev. Mr. Molyneux, of Woolwich; second, the Rev. Mr. Gurney, who will, of course, have the influence of his relatives, the Messrs. Hawes, they being members of the court of the Haberdasher's Company, in whose gift the lectureship is; and third, the Rev. Mr. Melville, a gentleman who is already chaplain of the Tower, and principal of the East India College, with a salary of £2,000 a year.—*Daily News.* [The Rev. Dr. Croly and the Rev. Robert Bickersteth are also candidates.]

THE VICAR OF CHATTERIS AND HIS TITHES.—A correspondent sends us the following copy of a handbill published in the parish of the Rev. Michael Augustus Gathercole:—

Particulars of the seizure and sale of a horse, of the value of £25 (the property of John Ross, of Chatteris), taken by distraint for a claim of £7 13s. 6d. said to be due to the vicar of Chatteris, for corn rent in lieu of tithes, sold in the Market-place, on the 18th instant, by James L. Allam, auctioneer:—

	£ s. d.	Amount of Sale	£ s. d.
William Hustwalt, bailiff, for levying distress	0 5 6	16 0 0	
Hay, corn, and stabling five days at the White Hart	0 19 0		
Oatler	0 2 0		
Constable administering two oaths	0 2 0		
Advertisements	0 9 6		
Auctioneer's claims	0 16 0		
Appraiser's claims	0 6 0		
Possession five days at 2s. 6d.	0 12 6		
	3 12 6		
Vicar's claim	7 13 5½		
Balance forward	4 14 0½		
	16 0 0		
		Balance to Account	4 14 0½

Chatteris, 12 Mo., 23, 1848.

A CHURCH-RATE REFUSED AT CARLISLE.—A vestry-meeting was called on Thursday to levy a church-rate for the parish of St. Mary's Within.

The churchwardens exhibited their accounts, showing a balance on hand, and a certain sum uncollected; and they asked for a rate of one halfpenny in the pound to meet the estimated expenses of the present year. So strong was the objection to the principle on which church-rates are levied, that the imposition was rejected all but unanimously—the only persons who voted for it being the churchwardens themselves. It is paying an ill compliment to the communicants of a wealthy parish like St. Mary's, to say that they care so little for the church in which they worship as to refuse to raise amongst themselves, by voluntary subscription, a sum so paltry as £20.—*Carlisle Journal.*

THE MAN UPTON, through whose negligence the explosion of gunpowder on the Eastern Counties line lately took place, has been fined £5 and dismissed the Company's service.

SOME 300 MEN on the North British Railway have struck for an increase of wages; and the works at the central station in Newcastle are at a standstill from the same cause.

Certain premises being required by the South-western Railway for its extension to London Bridge, the owner demanded £14,742; a Jury has awarded him £1,394.

A LADY POISONED BY MISTAKE.—An inquest was held on the 23rd ult., at Louth, on the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Harold, widow of S. Harold, Esq., late of Uterby House, and mother of the lady of the Rev. H. B. Benson, residing at the above mansion. The following circumstances were detailed by Mr. Trought, the family surgeon, who said he had been called in on Tuesday morning by Mrs. Harold for a complaint of the catarrhal kind, to which the deceased had been subject, and for the alleviation and removal of which he had been employed. Mr. T. applied the usual remedies. On Wednesday night the deponent saw his patient again, and on leaving the house he especially informed the servant as to the nature of the medicines he was about to send, namely, a sedative cough mixture, to be taken as directed on the bottle, two table spoonfuls at a time, and an embrocation (composed of croton oil and other drugs), with which she was to rub the chest of her mistress; after which she was to be particular in washing her hands, as the embrocation was made up of ingredients of a poisonous and dangerous nature. The medicaments were sent, and applied. At ten o'clock at night, Mrs. Harold having taken about half an hour's repose, suddenly awoke in a violent fit of coughing, and hastily calling the girl to give her a tea-spoonful of the cough mixture, she, in her hurry, seized hold of the wrong bottle, and pouring out a tea-spoonful of the embrocation into a wine glass, gave it to the unfortunate deceased, who drank it, and instantly exclaimed, "How hot my throat is; surely you have not given me the wrong medicine?" The fatal mistake being discovered, Mr. Trought was directly sent for, who promptly attended, and lost not a moment in administering the necessary antidotes, which appeared to be successful. On Thursday and Friday Mrs. Harold seemed to be recovering, though the inevitably weakening effects of the antidote in a person of her years (about 75) were apparent. On Saturday morning Mrs. Harold was seized with violent coughing, and died in the convulsion. On the jury's questioning Mr. Trought as to his view of the true cause of Mrs. Harold's death, he stated that the poison accidentally taken and ejected by the emetic could not have been the direct cause of her dissolution, but indirectly he had no doubt it was.—The maid (Lowry), who made the fatal mistake, stated that she perfectly understood the directions given her by Mr. Trought. She remembered the caution given her on Wednesday evening as to the dangerous nature of the embrocation. She could read the directions on the labels on both the bottles distinctly, but she could not account for the error she had made except by the hurry she was in at the time the mixture was called for. She had been up the whole of the preceding night, and in constant attendance on her mistress. There had not been the slightest disagreement between them.—The jury gave as their verdict "That the death of Mrs. Harold was accelerated by her accidentally taking the embrocation."—*Stamford Mercury.*

EFFECTS OF PASSION.—A boy having been sent by his uncle, a miner of Trimdon Colliery, near Durham, to fetch some milk, he fell and spilt it on the way; when he returned, the man was making cartridges for blasting; he was very angry with the boy, and struck him on the head with a bag of gunpowder; the bag burst, some of the powder got into the fire, and there was a violent explosion. An infant was killed, and two other persons were burnt very severely.

MR. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES has issued an address to the electors of Hull, announcing that the office of Chief Poor-law Commissioner had been offered him spontaneously, and accepted; and he again asks the suffrages of the electors. There is no doubt that his appeal to them will be successful.

INCREASED VALUE OF GROUND IN THE METROPOLIS.—There are many estates in the metropolis which fifty years back were worth £3 an acre, as cow pasture and dairy ground, now realizing from £1,000 to £2,000 per acre per annum! Many within thirty years, which were brickfield roughs, now return half that rental, and in another generation these same estates on which the property of thousands has been outlaid, will in some instances yield to the colossal proprietors from £100,000 to £500,000 per annum!—*The Builder.*

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

LION-STREET, WALWORTH.—On Thursday evening, December 28, a numerous meeting of the church and congregation at this place was held, for the purpose of expressing the unanimous and cordial esteem in which they hold their pastor, the Rev. Samuel Green, who has deemed it right to resign his connexion with the church. Samuel Watson, Esq., occupied the chair. The Rev. George Cole, late of Church-street, Blackfriars, offered prayer; after which the chairman, with a few prefatory observations, in the name of his brother deacons and of the church, presented to Mr. Green a written address, and an elegant purse, containing eighty-five sovereigns, as expressive of their "high regard and esteem for him as a Christian man, and a minister of religion." In acknowledging this gift, Mr. Green took occasion to say, that several circumstances contributed to relieve the pain occasioned by the present separation, among which he dwelt upon the clearness of the intimations of Divine Providence that, under all the circumstances, which need not be here adverted to, he ought to resign; that he and the people parted without any diminution of mutual respect and affection; and that, through Divine mercy, the separation involved no reflection upon either pastor or people that might be painful in remembrance. "We part," said Mr. Green, "painfully, but not unkindly; and, as the result of a feeling on both sides, that the separation is according to the will of the Master whom we love and serve." Mr. Gover, Mr. William H. Watson, and Mr. W. Gill, three others of the deacons of the church, the Rev. George Cole, and Mr. Freeman Roe, who stated himself to have grown up from boyhood somewhat under Mr. Green's pastoral care, followed in addresses replete with sentiments of respect and kindness; and, after a benediction pronounced by Mr. Green, the meeting separated.

IRISH EVANGELICAL SOCIETY.—ORDINATION OF THE REV. WILLIAM DOUGAN OVER THE CHURCH AT CARRICKFERGUS.—On Tuesday, December 19, the ordination of Mr. Dougan took place, in presence of a numerous congregation, and of several ministers. The Rev. Isaac Jennings, of Londonderry, stated and explained the doctrines held by Independents in common with all Evangelical Christians, and the principles peculiar to themselves. The usual questions—to which most satisfactory and concise replies were given by Mr. Dougan—were proposed by the Rev. James Baine, of Straide. The ordination prayer, and the charge, were solemnly and affectionately made by the Rev. Noble Sheppard, of Sligo. The Rev. J. D. Smith, Secretary for Ireland, preached on the reciprocal duties, interests, and relations of people and pastor. The other parts of the services devolved upon the Rev. Robert Murphy, late of Waterford, and the Rev. Richard Garvey, M.A., of Glenarm. The ministers having dined together, a *soirée* was held in the evening, when a numerous assembly were refreshed with tea, and then with spirit-stirring speeches on religious subjects by the above-mentioned ministers, and the Rev. Mr. Tobias, of Carrickfergus, and another able minister of the Wesleyan body.

GAINFORD, DURHAM.—On Thursday, the 28th of December, the foundation-stone of a new Independent chapel was laid by the Rev. S. Jackson, of Northallerton, in the beautiful village of Gainford, situate on the banks of the Tees, in the county of Durham. Mr. Jackson delivered a suitable address to the company assembled, and the ceremony concluded with prayer by the Rev. J. Ward, of Staindrop. A *soirée* was held in the evening, when about 100 persons were present, and addresses were delivered by Revs. J. Ward, Jackson, and Hardman, of Barnard Castle, and others. From this village, 200 years ago, the minister of the parish was ejected for his Nonconforming principles, and several interesting anecdotes were read to the meeting in connexion with the above fact. The gospel has been preached for the last twenty years, principally by Messrs. Jackson, Ward, and Bowman, the latter a resident in the village, and it is mainly by his labours that a church has been formed and a chapel commenced. Donations will be thankfully received by him, or the Rev. J. Ward, of Staindrop, from any who, from a sense of personal benefit resulting from the preaching of the gospel, feel an interest in the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom. The chapel will contain from 130 to 150 sittings; will be built in the early English style of architecture; and is estimated to cost £300, nearly half of which has been raised by the exertions of friends in the neighbourhood.

WESLEYAN MUNIFICENCE.—On Christmas day, Thomas Barker, Esq., the extensive shipowner, entertained the Wesleyan school-children of North Shields (about 800) at tea, with also their teachers (100 more). Mr. Barker has also given £80 towards the liquidation of the circuit debt; Mr. Mease, £20; Mr. Wingrave, £10; Messrs. Hepple and Gibson, £5 each; and other smaller sums. The debt has disappeared.—*Gateshead Observer.*

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.—The Rev. John Browne, B.A. (late of Lowestoft, in the same county), has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Independent church in that place to become its pastor, and enters upon his ministry there on the first Sabbath in January. This church, which has had existence for 200 years, has been presided over during the last forty-two years, by the Rev. Andrew Ritchie, whose increasing infirmities induced him, in November last, to announce his intention of resigning his office at the close of the year 1848, in anticipation of which, and with Mr. Ritchie's full acquiescence, the church resolved to invite Mr.

ORIGINAL
DEFECTIVE

thought, their standards of judgment, have been, generation after generation, acquiring consistency, inflexibility—and as years roll on, will probably become more and more impervious to any truth that would refashion them. Within the laws which acquire increasing power over them, religion will develop itself—but, speaking of them as a class, that is all. But for some extraneous change—a change which we have no doubt is coming—Christianity, we think, has less ground for hope in them, than in the working men. It is fast degenerating among them from a living power to a lifeless form—from a principle to a sentiment—from an inward motive to an outward profession. It is sinking into a routine of detotional exercises, the effects of which terminate with themselves. It puts orthodoxy in the place of reverence for truth—and substitutes pecuniary subscriptions for active personal exertion. It is an agency to be worked pretty exclusively by ministers. It builds up “interests,” instead of grappling with evils. It aspires to be genteel, rather than irresistible. Its love of justice is not allowed to make a disturbance at home—if it wants play, it must go to a distance. Its charity prefers foreign objects. Taking it “for all in all,” it strikes one as an almost impenetrable mass of conventionalism—not positively dead, but completely overlaid—sickly, fanciful, feminine—as an existence dwindling into nominalism—as a life, fast decaying—as a power, all but void of efficiency. Of course there are exceptions—but, in the main, we fear, such is the religionism of the middle classes of our times.

On the other hand we have the great body of working men—a rich soil—but in respect of Christianity nearly uncultivated—in its principal characteristics presenting a strong contrast with the social class next above it. There are varieties among working men, as there are in every other section of the community—but they are not such as to exclude common points of resemblance—individualities of feature and expression, consistent, however, with a strong family likeness. A shrewd perception, capable of detecting at a glance the best attired shams—a practical common sense which fixes its estimate of things by what they do rather than by what they express—an independence which spurns at mere authority—an energy which even poverty can hardly tame—a kindness of heart hidden beneath a rough homeliness of manner—a patient endurance which can stand the severest tests—and a familiarity with personal toil as the only means to an end—these constitute the raw material of character with the working men. We see them now, save in special instances, in a disadvantageous light. The ground is encumbered by rank weeds. Bring it under cultivation—sow it with revealed truth—reclaim it by wise and diligent efforts for Christianity—and we shall see a more glorious development of religious worth, than our country has yet witnessed.

In truth, the interest of the churches is as much concerned in winning the working men, as that of the working men in being won. When the gospel has succeeded in fusing into one the two classes, a new vigour will be imparted to the cause of truth and right. Both will lose much of the evil which cleaves to them—the one its childish veneration for gentility, the other its rude repudiation of refinement—this, its conventionalism, that, its contempt of appearances—the first, its creeping timidity, the last, its recklessness. Thoroughly amalgamated, we believe they would put forth a well-disciplined energy, before which every obstacle would soon give way—a moral power which would prove irresistible. Nor would this be all. Christianity would be studied from other points of view. Neglected mines of wealth would be discovered by the application of fresh habits and objects of research. Our interpretation of truth would be dragged out of the deep and well-worn ruts in which it has so long moved. Unanticipated combinations of spiritual laws would be evolved—antique misapprehensions would be removed—and faith, and love, and zeal, bursting through old incrustations of prejudice and habit, would find for themselves fresh channels of usefulness.

The importance of the question, then, to which our attention is directed can hardly be overrated. What stands in the way of this “consummation devoutly to be wished?” Whence arises the indifference of the masses to that system of truth which would most befriended them, socially, intellectually, morally, and spiritually? To this question we shall address ourselves in two or three successive papers.

EDITORIAL COMPLIMENTS.—The *Church and State Gazette*, in its ill-humour at Mr. Noel's crushing exposure of the State Church, falls foul of ourselves in true Billingsgate style. The *Nonconformist* is, it seems, “prayer-hating.”—“a paper infamous to the very end of time.”—“a paper which recommends spoliation—which strikes at the Throne through the Church—which spits at prayer, and which makes nice of no vile aid whereby Church and Throne are to be alike smashed, and Dissent grow fat upon property evilly acquired.” Fic, Mr. Editor! What class of readers must you have to believe such rancorous balderdash?

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

HORNCastle.—On Thursday, the 21st December, this town was visited by J. Kingsley, Esq., B.A., as a deputation from the Anti-state-church Association. The clerical influence is mighty here. In fact, the town may be said to be under “parsons’ sway.” Yet, notwithstanding, a numerous and respectable audience came together, and for upwards of one hour and a half the lecturer elicited the attention and applause of the assembly whilst stating the objects sought by the Society, and exposing the evils resulting from the connexion of the Church with the State. As this subject was a novel one here, no meetings of the kind having taken place previously, with the exception of a course of lectures delivered by Henry Vincent, Esq., during the autumn of the past year, the major part of the assembly, we presume, were scarcely prepared for the statements made by the lecturer: we surmise that some would resemble those philosophers and Epicureans that Paul had to withstand at Athens, who brought him before Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new doctrine whereof thou speakest is? for thou bringest certain strange things to our ears; we would know, therefore, what these things mean.” This meeting will doubtless lead to inquiry on a question long dormant, and we hope to vigorous practical effort. A committee has been formed in connexion with the parent Society.—*From a Correspondent.*

RUGBY.—SOWING THE SEED.—On Friday evening last, the Rev. Mr. Bayley, of Birkenhead, delivered a lecture in the St. Matthew's schoolroom upon “The Difference of Doctrine between the Church of Rome and the Church of England,” to a numerous audience. At the conclusion of the lecture, a boy distributed tracts very liberally to the assembly as they departed. The Rev. T. Page, incumbent of St. Matthew's church, on making his appearance, had a few of these tracts placed in his hands. He went back into the room to see the nature of the publication that had been so freely given away, when the truth flashed upon his mind, that the whole of his congregation had been well supplied with the “stubborn truth of the Nonconformists” in their “Tracts for the Millions.” Mr. Page finding it too late to prevent the mischief, became greatly excited, and after tearing the tracts to pieces, seized the boy, and declared he would take him before a magistrate—the next moment, he would horsewhip him. He then called vehemently to his clerk, to come and “hold the rascal,” while he went for the police;—altogether, it presented one of the most ludicrous spectacles ever seen in Rugby. It may be well to inform Mr. Page (says our correspondent) that however inveterate he may be against those who differ from him in religious tenets, there is most certainly a regular campaign commenced in Rugby against the connexion of religion with the State. The Society's tracts are distributed through the town, and a lecture is very likely to be given soon to explain the views of the Anti-state-church Society.—*Leicester Mercury.*

RHYMNEY.—The first public lecture on the separation of religion from State control, was delivered at this place on the evening of last Christmas-day, by the Rev. J. Price. The subjects of the discourse were, the history, objects, and the justice of the claims of the Anti-state-church Association—the probabilities that separation will take place, and its probable consequences. The meeting was very numerous attended. The Rev. Vicar of Rhymney was present, with a short-hand writer, who was employed by the Rev. Vicar. This place is an iron-work district, the population being above 12,000. When Mr. Miall will next visit South Wales an effort will be made to have him to Rhymney. Some of the young men belonging to the Rev. J. Price's congregation offered to present him henceforth with the *Nonconformist* newspaper, which offer was thankfully accepted by Mr. Price.—*From a Correspondent.*

HALIFAX.—(From a Correspondent.)—Our readers will recollect, that, in November last, the Local Committee of the British Anti-state-church Association commenced a series of lectures. The first was delivered by the Rev. S. Whitewood, Baptist minister, in the school-room of Square Chapel, the oldest Independent place of worship in the town. The second lecture was to have been delivered on the 12th ult., by the Rev. J. W. Ridley, of the Methodist New Connexion; but that day fell during the West Riding Election, and the lecture was necessarily postponed. It is now, however, fixed for Tuesday next, the 9th inst., in the Particular Baptist school-room. Other lectures, by ministers of different denominations, are to follow, once a month; and a public meeting, attended by a deputation from London, is to be held in the town in the spring. It is hoped that the Rev. John Burnet, whose absence from the last public meeting, was the source of so much disappointment, will be present on the occasion referred to. The late contest for the West Riding has given an impetus to Anti-state-church principles in this neighbourhood, and many of the staunch Nonconformists are purchasing freeholds, that they may have votes for the Riding at another election.

IRISH “REGIUM DONUM” AND IRISH CHRISTIAN WILLINGHOOD.

(From the United Presbyterian Magazine.)

A document of considerable interest, as illustrating by contrast the working of *Regium Donum* in Ireland, has been kindly transmitted to us from

Belfast. It is the first annual report of the sustentation fund committee in connexion with the “Eastern Reformed Presbyterian Church.” This body, consisting of ten churches, situated chiefly in Ulster, has maintained a noble testimony for the truth, by refusing to participate in the bribe which has so long fettered and enervated Irish Presbyterianism; and, more recently, it has rendered its testimony very distinct and emphatic by declaring, in 1847, that “to force men to support the religion of Jesus is a gross insult offered to our blessed Redeemer;” and that “this insult is greatly aggravated when solemnly sanctioned by act of Parliament. It is iniquity established by law.” In working out this principle, the ministers not only gave up the legal claim which they had on their respective congregations—resolving to trust in their Christian liberality alone—but agreed also to abandon the practice of seat-rents and other assessments, and to receive their several stipends from a common fund, the result of contributions obtained by voluntary collectors appointed for the purpose in the different churches. The congregations each promised to raise a certain sum toward this fund; and though the promise was made “when (says the report) the potato failure had only made its appearance, and though the contributions have been paid during a year of unparalleled calamity in this country—a year of famine, pestilence, and death—yet the amount received has fallen short of the amount promised only £5 4s. 11d.” From the common treasury, each minister received £80 the first year—a sum which, honestly come by, will bear comparison with the income of the Synod of Ulster ministers, eked out though that be by the pension of the Government. The value of this fund, as a manifestation of Christian liberality, is exhibited in the report in a striking point of view:—“If we take the number of communicants in the ten congregations to be 1,400 (which is fully the number), the contributions will amount to 10s. 6d. for each communicant; and if we take these 1,400 communicants to represent 700 families, and the families at an average of five members each, it will give 3,500 persons in connexion with our church. The total sum contributed by this number being £735 5s. 11d., would make an average contribution of 4s. for each individual adherent—an average sum, which, we believe, has not been exceeded by the contributions of any body of Christians in the present day.” The Irish Wesleyans raised in 1847, for each communicant 7s.; for each adherent 2s. 8d. But Wesleyanism throughout Ireland is scarcely to be compared, in point of ability to contribute for the support of religion, with Presbyterianism in Ulster. Let us then extend the comparison to the *Regium Donum* Presbyterians. A Government report of June, 1847, respecting the “General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland,” gives the number of congregations as 451, paying altogether for stipend £18,441, or about £40 a-year each; families, 86,450; population, 432,250: average payment by each individual, 10½d.—forty-one farthings a-year. Adding the amount raised for missions, the average contribution for religious purposes for each member, is 2s. 9d.; or, for each adherent, 1s. 1d. Here, then, is the result of the public bounty granted to Irish Presbyterianism. The £36,000 annually voted to the Irish assembly for the advancement of Christianity, turns out to be a hindrance to true religion—an incubus on its exertions, an opiate to its graces: and all this besides its being the fruit of legal extortion, and the apology, which statesmen, planning for the endowment of the Man of Sin, can plead against all the exhortations of Irish Presbyterians—the body which many had been accustomed to regard as pre-eminently set for the defence of Protestantism in Ireland.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER AGAIN.—That afflicted man, the Bishop of Exeter, has again been in trouble. The Church Missionary Society having held a meeting in Honiton, the numbers present were so great that the room overflowed, and an adjournment took place to the church. Not many hours had elapsed before the Rev. V. H. P. Somerset, the incumbent, who had thus desecrated the edifice, was called to account by his disquieted diocesan—went down upon his knees—and was forgiven. He has been obliged, however, to make “public reparation” for the “public scandal” by publishing a letter of admonition addressed to him by the bishop, in which his lordship says:—“That the organ was played and psalms [were] sung, does not appear to me to have at all improved the case. On the contrary, it made the church to be, for the time, a conventicle—as the meeting itself made it a public hall.” Mr. Somerset, as he swallowed his humiliation, must have thought of the old adage, that “one man may steal a sheep, and another may not look over the hedge.” The bishop, who patronizes musical festivals, snubs the incumbent of Honiton for suffering a missionary meeting in his church; and Mr. Maskell, the bishop's chaplain, preaches Romish doctrines before his lordship—prints the discourse at his request—and receives not a whisper of reproof—although Dr. Phillpotts admits, in reply to a clerical memorial, that the views promulgated by his chaplain are Popish and unsound. Nor do we find that censure has descended upon a certain other priest of the diocese of Exeter, who, having set aside, as “uncanonical,” a porcelain font presented by a lady, refused to permit its restoration to the donor; because, having been used for sacred, it ought not to be put to secular purposes; and he therefore gave orders that it should be interred in consecrated earth! But the Rev. T. H. Hawker, of Plymouth, if he be in the bishop's power, may hardly escape so easily. He may prepare himself for exhibition

in a "white sheet." Exasperated, apparently, by an attack made upon his late father, he pens an epistle to the Right Reverend Doctor, equally remarkable for boldness and bad taste, and concludes with wishing him a "speedy translation" to the "vacant see of Rome!"—where, certainly, his lordship would have, just now, an ample opportunity of indulging in his favourite element—"hot water!"—*Gateshead Observer.*

THE ANNUITY-TAX.—The Government inquiry regarding the Annuity-tax has not had the effect of suppressing agitation *in toto*. A shopkeeper having delayed payment of last year's rate, was taken to prison, but was liberated in the course of the day, on giving a cheque for the amount. Other recusants have given in, but not until the appearance of the officer at their doors; and, in fine, it seems evident that unless a large measure of reform be granted, the agitation will be scotched, not killed. Notice has been given of a motion in the town council, that the Edinburgh and Montrose clergy should be paid out of the unexhausted teinds; but it is not probable that other large towns would agree to this, as the mere fact of special ecclesiastical imposts being levied in these two places only, does not prove that in them exclusively Church burdens are felt to be onerous.—*Edinburgh Correspondent of the Daily News.*

ECCLESIASTICAL PROPERTY.—We understand that a new commission is contemplated to inquire into the state of the law respecting the letting and management of ecclesiastical property, with a view to legislation on this important subject. The matters to be investigated are of themselves of a sufficiently extensive and complicated nature to require the deepest attention; and the persons selected for the task will not at all interfere with the duties or the construction of the Ecclesiastical Commission, but will be employed upon a field of labour and inquiry entirely distinct. It is well known that complaints have been incessantly made from various sources of the mismanagement of church and college estates, the greater part of which is to be attributed to the state of the law, which has remained, with scarce any change, what it was in the days of Elizabeth, and which not only impedes improvement, but holds out too many temptations to abuse. The short terms of leases given by bishops and other dignitaries of the Church, and by ecclesiastical corporations, were in themselves the greatest obstacles to any beneficial outlay on these properties, whilst even the short period of three years or twenty years' lease was often turned to improper account; and a nominal rent only (with large fines) demanded from tenants thus favoured.—*Observer.*

MR. NOEL'S BOOK.—We understand, from a correspondent, that "the work has been some time in the hands of the publisher, and that the greatest secrecy was to be observed in passing it through the press: proofs were to be forwarded under seal: the name of the author unknown: and its proposed time of issue was about Midsummer, 1849. When, however, the secession of the honourable and reverend gentleman became known, it was found essential that the book should appear immediately. Accordingly, the volume, containing between six hundred and seven hundred pages, passed through the press in the short space of fourteen days!—perhaps, the most rapid performance ever achieved in the book-printing art."—*Church and State Gazette.*

"THE GOLDEN LECTURE."—The Rev. Dr. Dale has resigned one of his appointments, known as the "Golden Lectureship," a post, the emoluments of which are about £500 a year, and the duties one sermon a week, delivered on Tuesdays, at one of the churches near the Royal Exchange. There are already three candidates for the appointment—first, the Rev. Mr. Molyneux, of Woolwich; second, the Rev. Mr. Gurney, who will, of course, have the influence of his relatives, the Messrs. Hawes, they being members of the court of the Haberdasher's Company, in whose gift the lectureship is; and third, the Rev. Mr. Melville, a gentleman who is already chaplain of the Tower, and principal of the East India College, with a salary of £2,000 a year.—*Daily News.* [The Rev. Dr. Croly and the Rev. Robert Bickersteth are also candidates.]

THE VICAR OF CHATTERIS AND HIS TITHES.—A correspondent sends us the following copy of a handbill published in the parish of the Rev. Michael Augustus Gathercole:—

Particulars of the seizure and sale of a horse, of the value of £25 (the property of John Ross, of Chatteris), taken by distraint for a claim of £7 13s. 5½d. said to be due to the vicar of Chatteris, for corn rent in lieu of tithes, sold in the Market-place, on the 18th instant, by James L. Allam, auctioneer:—

	£ s. d.	Amount of Sale	£ s. d.
William Huestwait, bailiff, for levying distress	0 5 6	16 0 0	
Hay, corn, and stabling five days at the White Hart	0 19 0		
Ostler	0 2 0		
Constable administering two oaths	0 2 0		
Advertisements	0 9 6		
Auctioneer's claims	0 16 0		
Appraiser's claims	0 6 0		
Possession five days at 2s. 6d.	0 12 6		
	3 12 6		
Vicar's claim	7 13 5½		
Balance forward	4 14 0½		
	16 0 0		
		Balance to Account	4 14 0½

Chatteris, 12 Mo., 23, 1848.

A CHURCH-RATE REFUSED AT CARLISLE.—A vestry-meeting was called on Thursday to levy a church-rate for the parish of St. Mary's Within.

The churchwardens exhibited their accounts, showing a balance on hand, and a certain sum uncollected; and they asked for a rate of one halfpenny in the pound to meet the estimated expenses of the present year. So strong was the objection to the principle on which church-rates are levied, that the imposition was rejected all but unanimously—the only persons who voted for it being the churchwardens themselves. It is paying an ill compliment to the communicants of a wealthy parish like St. Mary's, to say that they care so little for the church in which they worship as to refuse to raise amongst themselves, by voluntary subscription, a sum so paltry as £20.—*Carlisle Journal.*

THE MAN UPTON, through whose negligence the explosion of gunpowder on the Eastern Counties line lately took place, has been fined £5 and dismissed the Company's service.

SOME 300 MEN on the North British Railway have struck for an increase of wages; and the works at the central station in Newcastle are at a standstill from the same cause.

Certain premises being required by the South-western Railway for its extension to London Bridge, the owner demanded £14,742; a Jury has awarded him £1,394.

A LADY POISONED BY MISTAKE.—An inquest was held on the 23rd ult., at Louth, on the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Harold, widow of S. Harold, Esq., late of Utterby House, and mother of the lady of the Rev. H. B. Benson, residing at the above mansion. The following circumstances were detailed by Mr. Trought, the family surgeon, who said he had been called in on Tuesday morning by Mrs. Harold for a complaint of the catarrhal kind, to which the deceased had been subject, and for the alleviation and removal of which he had been employed. Mr. T. applied the usual remedies. On Wednesday night the deponent saw his patient again, and on leaving the house he especially informed the servant as to the nature of the medicines he was about to send, namely, a sedative cough mixture, to be taken as directed on the bottle, two table spoonfuls at a time, and an embrocation (composed of croton oil and other drugs), with which she was to rub the chest of her mistress; after which she was to be particular in washing her hands, as the embrocation was made up of ingredients of a poisonous and dangerous nature. The medicaments were sent, and applied. At ten o'clock at night, Mrs. Harold having taken about half an hour's repose, suddenly awoke in a violent fit of coughing, and hastily calling the girl to give her a tea-spoonful of the cough mixture, she, in her hurry, seized hold of the wrong bottle, and pouring out a tea-spoonful of the embrocation into a wine glass, gave it to the unfortunate deceased, who drank it, and instantly exclaimed, "How hot my throat is; surely you have not given me the wrong medicine?" The fatal mistake being discovered, Mr. Trought was directly sent for, who promptly attended, and lost not a moment in administering the necessary antidotes, which appeared to be successful. On Thursday and Friday Mrs. Harold seemed to be recovering, though the inevitably weakening effects of the antidote in a person of her years (about 75) were apparent. On Saturday morning Mrs. Harold was seized with violent coughing, and died in the convulsion. On the jury's questioning Mr. Trought as to his view of the true cause of Mrs. Harold's death, he stated that the poison accidentally taken and ejected by the emetic could not have been the direct cause of her dissolution, but indirectly he had no doubt it was.—The maid (Lowry), who made the fatal mistake, stated that she perfectly understood the directions given her by Mr. Trought. She remembered the caution given her on Wednesday evening as to the dangerous nature of the embrocation. She could read the directions on the labels on both the bottles distinctly, but she could not account for the error she had made except by the hurry she was in at the time the mixture was called for. She had been up the whole of the preceding night, and in constant attendance on her mistress. There had not been the slightest disagreement between them.—The jury gave as their verdict "That the death of Mrs. Harold was accelerated by her accidentally taking the embrocation."—*Stamford Mercury.*

EFFECTS OF PASSION.—A boy having been sent by his uncle, a miner of Trimdon Colliery, near Durham, to fetch some milk, he fell and spilt it on the way; when he returned, the man was making cartridges for blasting; he was very angry with the boy, and struck him on the head with a bag of gunpowder; the bag burst, some of the powder got into the fire, and there was a violent explosion. An infant was killed, and two other persons were burnt very severely.

MR. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES has issued an address to the electors of Hull, announcing that the office of Chief Poor-law Commissioner had been offered him *spontaneously*, and accepted; and he again asks the suffrages of the electors. There is no doubt that his appeal to them will be successful.

INCREASED VALUE OF GROUND IN THE METROPOLIS.—There are many estates in the metropolis which fifty years back were worth £3 an acre, as cow pasture and dairy ground, now realizing from £1,000 to £2,000 per acre per annum! Many within thirty years, which were brickfield roughs, now return half that rental, and in another generation these same estates on which the property of thousands has been outlaid, will in some instances yield to the colossal proprietors from £100,000 to £500,000 per annum!—*The Builder.*

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

LION-STREET, WALWORTH.—On Thursday evening, December 28, a numerous meeting of the church and congregation at this place was held, for the purpose of expressing the unanimous and cordial esteem in which they hold their pastor, the Rev. Samuel Green, who has deemed it right to resign his connexion with the church. Samuel Watson, Esq., occupied the chair. The Rev. George Cole, late of Church-street, Blackfriars, offered prayer; after which the chairman, with a few prefatory observations, in the name of his brother deacons and of the church, presented to Mr. Green a written address, and an elegant purse, containing eighty-five sovereigns, as expressive of their "high regard and esteem for him as a Christian man, and a minister of religion." In acknowledging this gift, Mr. Green took occasion to say, that several circumstances contributed to relieve the pain occasioned by the present separation, among which he dwelt upon the clearness of the intimations of Divine Providence that, under all the circumstances, which need not be here adverted to, he ought to resign; that he and the people parted without any diminution of mutual respect and affection; and that, through Divine mercy, the separation involved no reflection upon either pastor or people that might be painful in remembrance. "We part," said Mr. Green, "painfully, but not unkindly; and, as the result of a feeling on both sides, that the separation is according to the will of the Master whom we love and serve." Mr. Gover, Mr. William H. Watson, and Mr. W. Gill, three others of the deacons of the church, the Rev. George Cole, and Mr. Freeman Roe, who stated himself to have grown up from boyhood somewhat under Mr. Green's pastoral care, followed in addresses replete with sentiments of respect and kindness; and, after a benediction pronounced by Mr. Green, the meeting separated.

IRISH EVANGELICAL SOCIETY.—ORDINATION OF THE REV. WILLIAM DOUGAN OVER THE CHURCH AT CARRICKFERGUS.—On Tuesday, December 19, the ordination of Mr. Dougan took place, in presence of a numerous congregation, and of several ministers. The Rev. Isaac Jennings, of Londonderry, stated and explained the doctrines held by Independents in common with all Evangelical Christians, and the principles peculiar to themselves. The usual questions—to which most satisfactory and concise replies were given by Mr. Dougan—were proposed by the Rev. James Baine, of Straide. The ordination prayer, and the charge, were solemnly and affectionately made by the Rev. Noble Sheppard, of Sligo. The Rev. J. D. Smith, Secretary for Ireland, preached on the reciprocal duties, interests, and relations of people and pastor. The other parts of the services devolved upon the Rev. Robert Murphy, late of Waterford, and the Rev. Richard Garvey, M.A., of Glenarm. The ministers having dined together, a *soirée* was held in the evening, when a numerous assembly were refreshed with tea, and then with spirit-stirring speeches on religious subjects by the above-mentioned ministers, and the Rev. Mr. Tobias, of Carrickfergus, and another able minister of the Wesleyan body.

GAINFORD, DURHAM.—On Thursday, the 28th of December, the foundation-stone of a new Independent chapel was laid by the Rev. S. Jackson, of Northallerton, in the beautiful village of Gainford, situate on the banks of the Tees, in the county of Durham. Mr. Jackson delivered a suitable address to the company assembled, and the ceremony concluded with prayer by the Rev. J. Ward, of Staindrop. A *soirée* was held in the evening, when about 100 persons were present, and addresses were delivered by Revs. J. Ward, Jackson, and Hardman, of Barnard Castle, and others. From this village, 200 years ago, the minister of the parish was ejected for his Nonconforming principles, and several interesting anecdotes were read to the meeting in connexion with the above fact. The gospel has been preached for the last twenty years, principally by Messrs. Jackson, Ward, and Bowman, the latter a resident in the village, and it is mainly by his labours that a church has been formed and a chapel commenced. Donations will be thankfully received by him, or the Rev. J. Ward, of Staindrop, from any who, from a sense of personal benefit resulting from the preaching of the gospel, feel an interest in the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom. The chapel will contain from 130 to 150 sittings; will be built in the early English style of architecture; and is estimated to cost £300, nearly half of which has been raised by the exertions of friends in the neighbourhood.

WESLEYAN MUNIFICENCE.—On Christmas day, Thomas Barker, Esq., the extensive shipowner, entertained the Wesleyan school-children of North Shields (about 800) at tea, with also their teachers (100 more). Mr. Barker has also given £80 towards the liquidation of the circuit debt; Mr. Mease, £20; Mr. Wingrave, £10; Messrs. Hepple and Gibson, £5 each; and other smaller sums. The debt has disappeared.—*Gateshead Observer.*

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.—The Rev. John Browne, B.A. (late of Lowestoft, in the same county), has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Independent church in that place to become its pastor, and enters upon his ministry there on the first Sabbath in January. This church, which has had existence for 200 years, has been presided over during the last forty-two years, by the Rev. Andrew Ritchie, whose increasing infirmities induced him, in November last, to announce his intention of resigning his office at the close of the year 1848, in anticipation of which, and with Mr. Ritchie's full acquiescence, the church resolved to invite Mr.

ORIGINAL
DEFECTIVE

Browne (who had supplied Mr. Ritchie's pulpit for five months) to succeed their retiring pastor. Mr. Ritchie did not live to see the close of the year; he was called to his rest and to his reward on the 28th of December; his death took place at the house of his son-in-law, the Rev. T. Fison, at Romsey, Hampshire.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. MR. BACKHOUSE.—A meeting was recently held in Stroud, of the ministers, with other friends of various denominations, desirous of bearing their testimony in favour of the great principles which Mr. Backhouse had so consistently advocated, and of expressing their cordial esteem for him as a Christian minister, he being about to leave. The mode of gathering was a public tea meeting, at the Victoria room, Stroud. The tables were well and respectably filled. The Rev. T. Shakespeare, of Shortwood, having prayed, Peter King, Esq., was called to the chair. The first and second resolutions having been respectively moved and seconded by the Revs. T. Newman, of Shortwood, T. Nicholas, of Stroud, W. Yates, of Stroud, and T. Maund, of Stonehouse, a memorial, embodying the resolutions was moved by the Rev. B. Parsons, Ebley, seconded by Rev. F. Hood, Woodchester, and supported by T. Parsons, Esq., Stroud. The memorial was couched in very complimentary terms—recording their sense of the zeal, fidelity, and benevolence of the rev. gentleman, and expressing the gratitude of the memorialists for the honour which his labours have reflected on the Christian ministry, during his residence in this locality. It was signed in behalf of the meeting, by Peter King, Esq., and also by many ministers in the borough and county. After Mr. Backhouse had addressed the meeting, J. Partridge and W. B. Cartwright, Esqrs., expressed their hearty approbation of Mr. Backhouse's conduct, and of the spirit of the Meeting, and moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

TESTIMONIAL.—CASTLE-GREEN CHAPEL, BRISTOL.—At a social tea-meeting, held in the vestry, Dec. 27, 1848, the teachers of the Sabbath-school in connexion with the above place of worship, presented their esteemed superintendent, Mr. A. N. Langdon, with a handsome mahogany library or easy-chair, covered with morocco. A silver shield was inserted at the top of the back, encircled by a carved wreath, and bearing the following inscription:—

Presented to Mr. A. N. Langdon, by the teachers of Castle-green Sabbath-school, on his leaving that institution, as a testimonial of their esteem for his consistent character and devoted services as teacher and superintendent for nearly forty years. Dec. 1848.

On the previous Sabbath, the senior scholars presented the same gentleman with Anderson's Annals of the English Bible, in two volumes, elegantly bound, as a testimonial of their love and gratitude for his kindness to them.

WEEKLY TRACT SOCIETY.—A public meeting was held at Ebenezer Chapel, Shoreditch, on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult, in connexion with the auxiliary to this society; J. Geldart, Esq., presided. Rev. W. H. Elliott, secretary to the Parent Society, Rev. W. Tyler, R. Elliott, Esq., Dr. Oxley, and W. Taylor, Esq., addressed the meeting. A collection was made in behalf of the auxiliary, and the meeting, which was interesting throughout, then separated.

A REVIVAL OF OLD PRACTICES.—An *émeute* took place at Winchester College on Monday week among the gentlemen commoners, owing to Dr. Moberly, the head-master, having forbidden the customary display of fire-works on the evening previous to the holidays (Saturday week). The young gentlemen, however, were determined to have their fire-works, and obtained the usual supply, which was thrown over the wall into the playground during the time of divine service on Saturday. No sooner was the service over than the commoners made to their playground, and speedily kindled a large bonfire, and commenced kicking about fireballs. Dr. Moberly, being informed of what was going on, hastened to the spot, when a number of serpents were directed against him, and he was obliged to retire. On Sunday, the Doctor having intimated his intention of severely punishing the ringleaders, the youths refused to attend chapel, and on Monday morning declined making their appearance, and, for protection, barred their master out, who, in his turn barred them in. The besieged stood out several hours, but before eventide they were starved into a surrender, when some of the most forward were flogged, and one of them, who had rendered himself particularly obnoxious, was expelled the school.—*Globe*.

FINANCIAL REFORM MEETING IN EDINBURGH.—On Wednesday, a public meeting, under the auspices of the Financial Reform Association, we held in the Waterloo-rooms, Edinburgh, for the purpose of passing resolutions in favour of economy and retrenchment in the national expenditure. The Lord Provost was called to the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mr. W. Chambers and Mr. A. Dunlop, also by Mr. Cowan, M.P., Mr. Law, Mr. W. Duncan, S.S.C., Mr. Sibbald, Mr. J. Richardson, Mr. J. M'Laren, and other gentlemen. Resolutions were unanimously adopted, declaratory of "an enormous waste in various departments of the State," denouncing the existing system of taxation as unequal, calling for a more correct method of keeping the public accounts, and forming in Edinburgh a Financial Reform Association, acting independently of party, and without aiming at organic changes, to adopt all lawful and constitutional means for effecting a thorough reform in the national financial affairs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER AND THE REV. MR. PROBY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MR. EDITOR.—You may possibly remember that last summer the Rev. Mr. Proby, rector of St. Peter Cheesehill, in this city, was immersed in the river Itchen by the Rev. Mr. Branch, a Baptist minister in London; and afterwards partook of the Lord's supper in the Baptist chapel with the ordinary communicants.

No sooner had Mr. Proby been guilty of this clerical irregularity than he repented of it. The next morning he started off to Farnham to explain his position to the bishop, and to solicit his forgiveness. The bishop received him with his usual blandness, and promised to look into the case at some future time. In the meanwhile Mr. Proby was to desist from officiating in his parish, or anywhere else in Dr. Sumner's diocese.

A few weeks since, the bishop and his assistant clergy met in our cathedral, and constituted a formal board of investigation and judgment in the case. The upshot of the inquiry was, that Mr. Proby was sentenced to clerical silence for three years, to lose his rectorial income during the same period, and to pay all the expenses of the trial.

Now it should be known that the bishop and his assessors in this case are ranked as evangelicals—professing to preach the pure gospel of Christ, and, of course, to be guided by it in their religious conduct and transactions: pluming themselves, no doubt, on the assumption that they are not like their brother Phillpotts and his admirers. Mr. Proby is also classed with the evangelical party in the Church, and, though not the strongest minded among his brethren, is deemed a pious and worthy man. It is further observable, that Mr. Proby manifested his sincere penitence long before his trial—had a child baptized in the State Church, as a proof that he was not an anti-pædobaptist—kept aloof from the meeting-house from the time of his communion in it—and had shunned all fellowship with Dissenters; moreover, no act of immorality was laid to his charge by his ecclesiastical opponents; yet that his punishment is fearfully great, you will readily perceive. First, a pecuniary fine—in the loss of his income for three years, amounting altogether to about £300, and the cost of his trial, not a trifle more you may suppose. Secondly, three years' silence—not being allowed to preach in his own church or elsewhere during all that period, nor officially to visit the sick and the dying around him. Thirdly, three years' degradation—to be regarded and treated by his brethren and parishioners as a heretic, culprit, delinquent, totally unfit to minister in holy things, till purified by three years' idleness and sorrow!

The atrocity of this judgment will farther appear if you consider—First, by whom it was pronounced—an evangelical prelate and his evangelical assessors—men passing as truly godly persons, speaking at our Bible and missionary meetings, and recognised as patterns of spiritual excellency in the country. Would not Paul rather have lost his hand than have signed such a sentence for such a trivial irregularity? Secondly, that for immoral actions of the grossest kind little or no punishment is inflicted by this bishop and his advisers. We have heard of conduct the most disgraceful by the cloth, of which no notice has been taken by this prelatial superintendent. These, however, were only offences against God, but poor Proby's was a sin against the Popish and savage canons of the Church, and that makes all the difference. Thirdly, that this punishment is ten times heavier than would have been inflicted by the civil laws of the land for any offence of an analogous magnitude. To a good man loving his work the sentence is equal to solitary confinement on the silent system to many of the culprits in our gaols. Few debauchees would be fined more for running off with another man's wife; and a man flogged through the street at the cart's tail would not have been put in a more mortifying condition than Mr. Proby is by this unrighteous sentence.

From this judgment it may fairly be inferred that there is not a pin to choose between the Bishops of Exeter and Winchester, when sitting in judgment on their erring and defenceless brethren. Both are more bland than the notorious Judge Jeffreys, but both are equally harsh in their decisions. Further, it may be inferred that if the bishops and clergy deal out their vengeance so largely upon a weak, erring, brother, penitent for his offence, and still cleaving to their sect, the punishments they would inflict on Dissenters, were it in their power, would be nothing less than those inflicted by the savage Bonner and Laud on their antagonists.

Finally, one can but wonder at those mean-spirited men—Head of Feniton and Proby of Winchester—who, after such unmerited treatment by the clerical heads of the Church, and probably in accordance with the animus of that Church, should succumb, and bow, and pay, and be silent, and be degraded, and still stick to this anti-Christian and persecuting system! Let us be thankful to God that we do not belong to the Church of England; it as much degrades the mind as it does the position of the working clergy.

Yours, &c.,

Winchester, Dec. 26, 1848.

WILLIAM THORN.

MR. NOEL'S BOOK ON CHURCH AND STATE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I read with heart-felt satisfaction in the last number of the *Nonconformist* your able leading article on the secession of the Rev. Baptist Noel, and the publication of his valuable work on "The Union of Church and State;" but I could not help deeply regretting the high price, which will assuredly place it entirely out of the reach of thousands who, like myself, have embraced the principles of evangelical voluntarism (or anti-state-churchism), and had anxiously awaited the appearance of a new and important advocate. An excellent Churchman of my acquaintance gave an order to his newsman to procure the work when it came out, and expected he was ordering a pamphlet, but, to his surprise, came a 12s. volume! My object in thus addressing you, Sir, is to ask whether some respectful application cannot be made to the estimable author, to let us have at once a "People's Edition," by which hundreds of poor curates and other ministers, whose means are humble, and thousands of the working classes, may be privileged to become readers, and thereby be benefited.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. S. FEATHERSTONE.

THE WORKING CLASSES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The subject of the cause of the indifference of all classes of society to evangelical religion, is one which has had a place in my thoughts for some time past, and I have therefore read with considerable interest many of the letters of working men on the cause of its existence amongst themselves. It is not my intention in these lines to enlarge upon those causes, (though that is a work which it would be easy to enter upon,) but, with your permission, I would rather offer a few suggestions relating to the practicability of a remedy for the evils already dilated upon. I presume that your design in thus calling forth from the body of men amongst whom the evil principally exists, a statement of its causes, is, that, like a skilful physician, you may be the better enabled to give advice as to the best mode of remedy, and thus pave the way for a complete cure. I have, therefore, been somewhat surprised (considering that working men in general are noted for taking such practical views of things) that your correspondents have not advanced more suggestions relative to a comprehensive and effective remedy. Perhaps, however, they are leaving this most important consideration to you, and if such be the case, I hope these lines will not be considered premature on my part, as God is my witness, that I have none other than the purest motives, my only desire being His glory as manifested in the extension of the truth amongst mankind. When we consider the fact that the working classes of the present day constitute the most important body of society, numerically considered, (for with God there is no respect of persons,) and as being the class from which all others have sprung, and, further, that it was more expressly for them that the Church of Christ was established, the circumstance of their indifference to the cause of religion assumes a serious importance in the eyes of all thinking men, which it is difficult rightly to estimate, and the evil effects of which it is perhaps impossible to overrate. On the principle that love begets love, it seems that the indifference manifested by the church generally, both pastors and members, towards the present and eternal interests of the working classes, has begotten a like feeling of indifference on the part of the latter toward the cause of religion. Judging from the present stage of the correspondence, this seems to be a summary of the reasons assigned by your correspondents, and to the truth of which full evidence is borne by facts and every day experience. How then is it propose to remedy this evil? An answer seems to rise simultaneously in the mind and heart of every true believer in Christ. Do away with this indifference on the part of the church, and in its place let a spirit of love and care be fostered for the interests of the working classes, and a corresponding feeling will at once be begotten and evinced in them. Thus, at first sight, the remedy appears simple, and one which, by a general and simultaneous effort on the part of the Church, can at once be carried into effect. It has only to be mentioned, and held up to view, to be at once completed. But before coming to a conclusion so happy in its results, and so much to be desired by all who are interested in the welfare of Zion, let us pause awhile, and first ask ourselves, whether it is a result which the past and present history of the Church will warrant us to expect. Is it a result which we expect to see take place immediately, now that the causes of this great and acknowledged evil are made known through the columns of your widely-circulated paper? Doubtless, every mind will yield assent to the truth of the statements; but, alas! for the perverseness and depravity of the heart of man, the experience of the past goes to prove but too clearly, that something more than a mere conviction of the truth is necessary on the part of a man, to ensure his conformity and obedience to its requirements. Ministers of the present day, if we may judge by their public discourses, have as clear a theoretical knowledge of the grand requirements of their sacred calling as it is possible for them to have; and acquainted as we are with the practical results of such knowledge, we are almost compelled to conclude, that the warnings already given will, in too many instances, be totally disregarded. In some instances, doubtless, the truth will be received in meekness and love, and efforts will at once be put forth on their part to remove the stains which are the cause of such great and incalculable evils; but, in the majority of instances, we fear that such will not be the case. The evil is too deeply rooted to be so easily extirpated. A deep spirit of slumber has fallen upon the churches, for they are careless and unmindful of the present and eternal interests of the poor. A kind of castship has been introduced from the world, which makes a member entitled to respect more on account of the quality of his garments and worldly wealth, than on mon has entered into the church, and its members have his piety and resemblance to his Lord and Master. Mam-mot refrained from rendering him homage and allegiance. Who, then, can wonder that the Head of the Church seems to have forsaken his own? Who can wonder at the decline in vital godliness, as exhibited in the life and conduct of the members, and seen also in the almost

universal decrease in all religious denominations during the several past years? The evil is one prevailing to an awful and alarming extent, and the remedy must be commensurate with the disease. "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon." It is high time to shake off the lethargic slumber. We hail with delight the symptoms of an approaching awakening, which are beginning to appear. You, Sir, have generously lent the aid of your valuable paper in a cause so holy, and your call has been in a measure responded to. We are encouraged to believe, that your assistance will not cease here, for the cause is a holy one, and Christians must not suffer it to rest. If we cast our eyes around us, we see immense activity in exercise for the extirpation and removal of abuses in all other institutions. Why not call forth a similar activity in the church? Committees and associations are established to inquire into the cause of the evils which are at work in our political, civil, and commercial relations, with a view to their reform and removal. Would it not be advisable to form a similar association, or conference, composed of all such as long to see the prosperity of Zion, to inquire into and hold discussion, on the cause of the present decline of the church in religion, life, and numbers? We have it recorded in history, that councils of the church were convoked whenever any momentous question had to be inquired into and settled. Eighteen hundred years have now elapsed since Christianity was first established, and are the results such as the faithful believer in Christ can rest satisfied with? No, indeed, they are not; for here in the middle of the nineteenth century, we see the cause of religion in our own country on the decline. Surely this is a subject of sufficient and momentous importance to justify the calling together of a general council of believers in the present day—a council composed of all sincere disciples of the truth, without distinction of sect or denomination. On such an assemblage, convened for a cause so holy, we cannot for a moment doubt that the Divine blessing, accompanied with an outpouring of His Spirit, would fail to rest; and that the conclusion arrived at, and resolutions passed, would be such as the exigency of the evil demands.

At any rate, I humbly submit the idea to the prayerful consideration of all who are interested in the welfare of Zion, and shall be happy to see any opinions on the subject which may be embodied in any further correspondence. Meanwhile, I remain, yours sincerely,
St. Alban's, Jan. 1, 1849. THEOPHILUS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you allow me to make one or two remarks on the very interesting subject now before your readers in reference to the working classes and religious institutions. It is to be hoped that many of these classes are attached to religious observances; but it is an obvious fact that, generally speaking, religious congregations exhibit a very small sprinkling of them, compared with other classes. It occurs to me that some of the causes of this have not been touched by your numerous correspondents. I wish to speak cautiously on such a subject, but I am afraid that there is something in the general system of religious teaching that does not meet the habits and modes of thinking of these classes, and that even calls up their prejudices. In the first place, the minister of such a congregation is generally one who has received an education specially for this vocation, and naturally adopts a style of language and a mode of address peculiar to the pulpit. To a certain extent, he exhibits himself as one who does not, as it were, belong to the working part of his audience; but whose desires and sympathies look up, and have a leaning to the more wealthy and higher portion of the congregation. Then, again, the chapel is generally of a fine and expensive character, one in which the plain working man does not feel himself at home, and in which he is apt to feel himself, if not an intruder, at least as an inferior. And in the next place, the keeping up of such a place of worship, and supporting the ministers, entails a heavy burden, of which the working man finds a difficulty in paying his proportion, but which his independent feelings make him shrink from freeing himself if he take his share of its advantages. If there be any truth in these remarks, it follows that the status of the teacher and the expense of the congregation, induce a state of matters uncongenial with the habits and pecuniary capabilities of these classes. It follows, also, that if the teaching could be performed by those who really and truly belong to the working classes, and at such a rate of expense as would be quite within their means, it would be more successful in securing their attention and co-operation. It may be thought that these ideas militate against an educated and paid ministry, and other things generally approved of; but no matter what present views they may come in contact with, if they tend to elicit truth. If they do so, in however small a degree, my object will be gained; and I may, with your permission, in a future letter, give my reasons for the opinions now expressed.

L.

JENNY LIND sang gratuitously at Birmingham on Thursday night, in aid of the funds of Queen's Hospital, in that town. Upwards of 3,000 persons were present. The receipts were £1,300.

WORKING MEN'S ESSAYS ON THE SABBATH.

On Wednesday a meeting, very numerous attended, was held in the large room, Exeter-hall, for the announcement of the adjudication and distribution of prizes to the successful competitors for the best essays by working men on the temporal advantages of the Sabbath to the labouring classes. Lord Ashley presided. The report stated that there were the prizes of £25, £15, and £10, the gift of John Henderson, of Glasgow; and about 77 prizes of £5. For these 1,045 competitors appeared, and amongst them a labourer's daughter, who wrote the "Pearl of Days," of which 16,000 copies have been sold. By the terms of the preliminary announcement, however, she could not receive a prize. The report stated that the essays generally displayed much theological knowledge, elevated moral sentiment, and considerable scientific attainments.

The Rev. E. BICKERSTETH moved the first resolution:

That the report of the adjudicators, presented to this meeting, affords a very gratifying view of the results of the attempt which has been made to call forth the energies and exertions of the labouring classes in defence of their Sabbath rights and privileges; and that these results are evidences of a movement the most hopeful for promoting the better observance of the Lord's-day that has yet been made.

In the course of his observations, the reverend gentleman said that he attributed the freedom from anarchy which this country enjoyed as compared with the nations on the continent to the better observance on the part of the people of the Lord's day. The government were now the only licensed traders in the country on the Lord's day. It was true that the money-order business of the Post-office had been given up, but they wanted a Post-office Sabbath throughout the whole land.

The Rev. A. THOMPSON, of Edinburgh, seconded the resolution. He objected to the statement that this was peculiarly a Scotch movement, as was proved by the fact that 400 of the competitors were Englishmen. It was impossible to account for the fact of so many good essays being written without arriving at the conclusion that the working men were earnestly engaged on the subject. They displayed a vigour of intellect equal to the muscular power with which they wielded sledge hammers, and many of them exhibited great eloquence—an eloquence not of the schools, but of the heart, and which seemed to be as natural to them as flight to the eagle. He believed that if they allowed the Sabbath to be given up for two years to amusement, on the third it would be bought up by commercial cupidity. The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. Dr. CUNNINGHAM moved the following resolution:

That considering the great temporal advantages of the Sabbath to the working classes, as well as the intimate connexion between its due observance and the social, political, commercial, and general welfare of the country, this meeting rejoices, with gratitude to God, that at a time when the nations of Europe were undergoing great revolutions, 1,045 British workmen stood forth as defenders of their Sabbath; and they hail this circumstance as highly favourable to the prospects of the country, while they earnestly point to it as an emphatic rebuke to all who would infringe the Sabbath right of the working classes, or tamper with the sacredness of the Lord's-day.

The Rev. J. A. JAMES seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. He believed that the Sabbath was the main prop of Christianity in every country. He believed that no other country in the world could have produced the same amount of religious mind. That was the result of their Sunday-school teaching, of their tract and Bible societies. Those were the true friends of the working classes, who endeavoured to preserve the Sabbath for them, and they were their traitors and destroyers who would take away from them, under any pretext whatever, the Lord's-day.

A prayer was then offered up by the Rev. Dr. Steane, after which the Rev. J. Jordan announced that the first prize of £25 was awarded to John Allan Quinton, compositor, of Ipswich; the second to John Younge, shoemaker, of St. Boswell's, Roxburghshire; the third to David Farquhar, mechanic, of Dundee. Amongst the successful £5 prizemen were two or three labourers and an old sailor, who was at present in the union workhouse, Cambridge.

In delivering Prince Albert's ten prizes, the CHAIRMAN said, that he was directed by his Royal Highness Prince Albert to deliver his ten prizes, and at the same time to express the deep satisfaction he felt, and he (Lord Ashley) might add the extreme satisfaction felt by her Most Gracious Majesty, on witnessing this movement which had taken place amongst the working classes. He was also commanded to express the deep interest they felt in the temporal and spiritual welfare of those worthy men. The other successful competitors who were present were then called up, and received the prizes in handsome purses. The appearance of Edward Fisher, of Wisbeach, a labourer, in his working jacket, produced the most lively applause.

The Rev. Dr. LEITCHFIELD delivered an address to the competitors.

The meeting was next addressed by the Rev. W. Brock, and the Rev. W. Champneys, after which Mr. Quinton, the first prizeman, moved, and Mr. Younge, second prizeman, seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Henderson, the giver of the prizes, and the originator of the movement, which was briefly acknowledged by him. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

His LORDSHIP, in returning thanks, said that this was essentially a movement for limiting the hours of labour. He had heard doubts thrown out whether these essays were the productions of the working classes. He had now for the last eighteen years been brought into such close contact—he might say into such close intimacy—with many of the working classes, that his experience enabled him to establish

this, that many of the working men were intellectually, morally, and spiritually, capable of producing these admirable—he would not hesitate to say, marvellous—productions [hear, hear]. Whilst in other countries thrones and aristocracies were crumbling, and the foundations of society itself were shaken, this was a most happy circumstance in the history of this country, and it led him to believe that this Protestant country was yet reserved by God for higher purposes of mercy in the history of mankind [cheers]. It filled him with consolation, and gave him comfort in many dark moments of life when he saw so many of the working classes of this country who represented still larger masses, coming forward with zeal, love, knowledge, and fervour, in the assertion of this high and holy purpose. He was sure that both her Majesty and Prince Albert recognised this great truth—that whilst all things were subordinate to the Divine will, it would be found that piety and the fear of God were the glory and stability of empires [cheers].

A meeting of members of the Sabbath Reform Association was held on Friday evening, at Freemasons'-hall, to hear addresses from the working men to whom prizes had been adjudged for essays upon the necessity and value of the Christian Sabbath.

S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., having taken the chair, introduced, with some preliminary observations—

GAGE, a servant, who proposed the first resolution, recognising the Sabbath as one of the brightest proofs of the wisdom and beneficence of the Almighty, and as tending, more than anything else, to improve the intellectual part of man's nature. The speaker complained of a report which had been circulated, that the successful essays had not been written by working men. He could speak from personal knowledge of their authenticity; and he rejoiced that, faulty as they might be in composition, they still contained truth, and the genuine sentiments of the class from which they had emanated. — WILLIAMS, a working potter, seconded the resolution.

The second resolution, which was proposed by — BROCK, a shoemaker, and seconded by — THOMAS, a house painter, was to the effect, that the Sabbath was absolutely necessary to the physical well-being of the human frame.

BROWNING, a shoemaker, in moving the third resolution, which deprecated the tendency of modern enterprise to trench on the day of rest in railways, steamboats, &c., complained that clergymen, many of whom he saw upon the platform, were in the habit of rolling to the work of evangelization on the Sabbath-day in their carriages, thus necessitating its violation by their coachmen and footmen. He congratulated himself on the fact, that while the workmen of Paris had been revolutionizing their country, 1,047 English workmen had here quietly sat down to write essays on the Sabbath. They had often heard of the four estates of the realm—the Queen, Lords, Commons, and the Press. To those must now be added the working men, the fifth in rotation, but the most valuable to the first, being the best life guards and protectors of the Sovereign.

FISHER, a labourer from Wisbeach, and who announced himself as a local preacher in the Wesleyan connexion, seconded the resolution.

The above resolutions were all carried unanimously.

The Rev. W. Brock moved a resolution pledging the meeting to a furtherance of the objects of the Association. In his opinion, all the men who had ever done any good in their generation were working men. There was not a harder working man in England than Lord Ashley, their late chairman. Franklin had been mentioned; but there was also Columbus, a weaver; Arkwright, a barber; Ben Jonson, a bricklayer; Carey, a cobbler; and, going higher up, the apostle Paul was a tentmaker; Peter was a fisherman; and the greatest of all, the Redeemer himself, was set down by the evangelist Mark as a carpenter. The object of the Association was unique, and he trusted would meet with general co-operation.

Mr. OAKLEY (one of the adjudicators), in seconding the resolution, eulogized the talent displayed in the 1,047 essays which had been submitted to his inspection. Many of them had Greek mottoes, and in others, although the composition was faulty, there were brilliant thoughts, evincing the highest order of intellect. A member of Parliament had told him, that in equal proportion he doubted if the House of Commons could have turned out such a collection [a laugh].

Thanks were voted to the chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

THE "TIMES" NEW PRINTING MACHINE.—The Times, in a long leading article, gives a description of a new printing machine, which has been for the past two months in use in that office, whereby the extraordinary number of 140 copies can be thrown off in a minute. It is a machine having eight cylinders. Hitherto, the rate at which it has been worked is about 1,000 revolutions per hour, or 8,000 impressions; but it is probable that it will be ultimately worked to 12,000 copies an hour. The name of the gentleman who constructed this wonderful piece of mechanism is Mr. Augustus Apple-garth, of Dartford.

COST OF THE CHARTIST MEETINGS IN APRIL LAST.—An extract from the County Treasurer's account shows that the sums repaid by him to the churchwardens of the various parishes in Middlesex, for expenses incurred by them in providing staves and other necessary articles for the use of the special constables, in April 1848, amounted to £1,043 14s. 8d. Paddington, £188 9s.; Hackney, £167 9s. 7d.

Browne (who had supplied Mr. Ritchie's pulpit for five months) to succeed their retiring pastor. Mr. Ritchie did not live to see the close of the year; he was called to his rest and to his reward on the 28th of December; his death took place at the house of his son-in-law, the Rev. T. Fison, at Romsey, Hampshire.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. MR. BACKHOUSE.—A meeting was recently held in Stroud, of the ministers, with other friends of various denominations, desirous of bearing their testimony in favour of the great principles which Mr. Backhouse had so consistently advocated, and of expressing their cordial esteem for him as a Christian minister, he being about to leave. The mode of gathering was a public tea meeting, at the Victoria room, Stroud. The tables were well and respectably filled. The Rev. T. Shakespeare, of Shortwood, having prayed, Peter King, Esq., was called to the chair. The first and second resolutions having been respectively moved and seconded by the Revs. T. Newman, of Shortwood, T. Nicholas, of Stroud, W. Yates, of Stroud, and T. Maund, of Stonehouse, a memorial, embodying the resolutions was moved by the Rev. B. Parsons, Ebley, seconded by Rev. F. Hood, Woodchester, and supported by T. Parsons, Esq., Stroud. The memorial was couched in very complimentary terms—recording their sense of the zeal, fidelity, and benevolence of the rev. gentleman, and expressing the gratitude of the memorialists for the honour which his labours have reflected on the Christian ministry, during his residence in this locality. It was signed in behalf of the meeting, by Peter King, Esq., and also by many ministers in the borough and county. After Mr. Backhouse had addressed the meeting, J. Partridge and W. B. Cartwright, Esqrs., expressed their hearty approbation of Mr. Backhouse's conduct, and of the spirit of the Meeting, and moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

TESTIMONIAL.—CASTLE-GREEN CHAPEL, BRISTOL.—At a social tea-meeting, held in the vestry, Dec. 27, 1848, the teachers of the Sabbath-school in connexion with the above place of worship, presented their esteemed superintendent, Mr. A. N. Langdon, with a handsome mahogany library or easy-chair, covered with morocco. A silver shield was inserted at the top of the back, encircled by a carved wreath, and bearing the following inscription:—

Presented to Mr. A. N. Langdon, by the teachers of Castle-green Sabbath-school, on his leaving that institution, as a testimonial of their esteem for his consistent character and devoted services as teacher and superintendent for nearly forty years. Dec. 1848.

On the previous Sabbath, the senior scholars presented the same gentleman with Anderson's Annals of the English Bible, in two volumes, elegantly bound, as a testimonial of their love and gratitude for his kindness to them.

WEEKLY TRACT SOCIETY.—A public meeting was held at Ebenezer Chapel, Shoreditch, on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult, in connexion with the auxiliary to this society; J. Geldart, Esq., presided. Rev. W. H. Elliott, secretary to the Parent Society, Rev. W. Tyler, R. Elliott, Esq., Dr. Oxley, and W. Taylor, Esq., addressed the meeting. A collection was made in behalf of the auxiliary, and the meeting, which was interesting throughout, then separated.

A REVIVAL OF OLD PRACTICES.—An émeute took place at Winchester College on Monday week among the gentlemen commoners, owing to Dr. Moberly, the head-master, having forbidden the customary display of fire-works on the evening previous to the holidays (Saturday week). The young gentlemen, however, were determined to have their fire-works, and obtained the usual supply, which was thrown over the wall into the playground during the time of divine service on Saturday. No sooner was the service over than the commoners made to their playground, and speedily kindled a large bonfire, and commenced kicking about fireballs. Dr. Moberly, being informed of what was going on, hastened to the spot, when a number of serpents were directed against him, and he was obliged to retire. On Sunday, the Doctor having intimated his intention of severely punishing the ringleaders, the youths refused to attend chapel, and on Monday morning declined making their appearance, and, for protection, barred their master out, who, in his turn barred them in. The besieged stood out several hours, but before eventide they were starved into a surrender, when some of the most forward were flogged, and one of them, who had rendered himself particularly obnoxious, was expelled the school.—*Globe*.

FINANCIAL REFORM MEETING IN EDINBURGH.—On Wednesday, a public meeting, under the auspices of the Financial Reform Association, we held in the Waterloo-rooms, Edinburgh, for the purpose of passing resolutions in favour of economy and retrenchment in the national expenditure. The Lord Provost was called to the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mr. W. Chambers and Mr. A. Dunlop, also by Mr. Cowan, M.P., Mr. Law, Mr. W. Duncan, S.S.C., Mr. Sibbald, Mr. J. Richardson, Mr. J. McLaren, and other gentlemen. Resolutions were unanimously adopted, declaratory of "an enormous waste in various departments of the State," denouncing the existing system of taxation as unequal, calling for a more correct method of keeping the public accounts, and forming in Edinburgh a Financial Reform Association, acting independently of party, and without aiming at organic changes, to adopt all lawful and constitutional means for effecting a thorough reform in the national financial affairs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER AND THE REV. MR. PROBY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MR. EDITOR.—You may possibly remember that last summer the Rev. Mr. Proby, rector of St. Peter Cheeseshill, in this city, was immersed in the river Itchen by the Rev. Mr. Branch, a Baptist minister in London; and afterwards partook of the Lord's supper in the Baptist chapel with the ordinary communicants.

No sooner had Mr. Proby been guilty of this clerical irregularity than he repented of it. The next morning he started off to Farnham to explain his position to the bishop, and to solicit his forgiveness. The bishop received him with his usual blandness, and promised to look into the case at some future time. In the meanwhile Mr. Proby was to desist from officiating in his parish, or anywhere else in Dr. Sumner's diocese.

A few weeks since, the bishop and his assistant clergy met in our cathedral, and constituted a formal board of investigation and judgment in the case. The upshot of the inquiry was, that Mr. Proby was sentenced to clerical silence for three years, to lose his rectorial income during the same period, and to pay all the expenses of the trial.

Now it should be known that the bishop and his assessors in this case are ranked as evangelicals—professing to preach the pure gospel of Christ, and, of course, to be guided by it in their religious conduct and transactions: pluming themselves, no doubt, on the assumption that they are not like their brother Phillips and his admirers. Mr. Proby is also classed with the evangelical party in the Church, and, though not the strongest minded among his brethren, is deemed a pious and worthy man. It is further observable, that Mr. Proby manifested his sincere penitence long before his trial—had a child baptized in the State Church, as a proof that he was not an anti-paedobaptist—kept aloof from the meeting-house from the time of his communion in it—and had shunned all fellowship with Dissenters; moreover, no act of immorality was laid to his charge by his ecclesiastical opponents; yet that his punishment is fearfully great, you will readily perceive. First, a pecuniary fine—in the loss of his income for three years, amounting altogether to about £300, and the cost of his trial, not a trifle more you may suppose. Secondly, three years' silence—not being allowed to preach in his own church or elsewhere during all that period, nor officially to visit the sick and the dying around him. Thirdly, three years' degradation—to be regarded and treated by his brethren and parishioners as a heretic, culprit, delinquent, totally unfit to minister in holy things, till purified by three years' idleness and sorrow!

The atrocity of this judgment will farther appear if you consider—First, by whom it was pronounced—an evangelical prelate and his evangelical assessors—men passing as truly godly persons, speaking at our Bible and missionary meetings, and recognised as patterns of spiritual excellency in the country. Would not Paul rather have lost his hand than have signed such a sentence for such a trivial irregularity? Secondly, that for immoral actions of the grossest kind little or no punishment is inflicted by this bishop and his advisers. We have heard of conduct the most disgraceful by the cloth, of which no notice has been taken by this prelatial superintendent. These, however, were only offences against God, but poor Proby's was a sin against the Popish and savage canons of the Church, and that makes all the difference. Thirdly, that this punishment is ten times heavier than would have been inflicted by the civil laws of the land for any offence of an analogous magnitude. To a good man loving his work the sentence is equal to solitary confinement on the silent system to many of the culprits in our gaols. Few debauchees would be fined more for running off with another man's wife; and a man flogged through the street at the cart's tail would not have been put in a more mortifying condition than Mr. Proby is by this unrighteous sentence.

From this judgment it may fairly be inferred that there is not a pin to choose between the Bishops of Exeter and Winchester, when sitting in judgment on their erring and defenceless brethren. Both are more bland than the notorious Judge Jeffreys, but both are equally harsh in their decisions. Further, it may be inferred that if the bishops and clergy deal out their vengeance so largely upon a weak, erring, brother, penitent for his offence, and still cleaving to their sect, the punishments they would inflict on Dissenters, were it in their power, would be nothing less than those inflicted by the savage Bonner and Laud on their antagonists.

Finally, one can but wonder at those mean-spirited men—Head of Feniton and Proby of Winchester—who, after such unmerited treatment by the clerical heads of the Church, and probably in accordance with the animus of that Church, should succumb, and bow, and pay, and be silent, and be degraded, and still stick to this anti-Christian and persecuting system! Let us be thankful to God that we do not belong to the Church of England; it as much degrades the mind as it does the position of the working clergy.

Yours, &c.,

Winchester, Dec. 26, 1848.

WILLIAM THORN.

MR. NOEL'S BOOK ON CHURCH AND STATE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I read with heart-felt satisfaction in the last number of the *Nonconformist* your able leading article on the secession of the Rev. Baptist Noel, and the publication of his valuable work on "The Union of Church and State;" but I could not help deeply regretting the high price, which will assuredly place it entirely out of the reach of thousands who, like myself, have embraced the principles of evangelical voluntarism (or anti-state-churchism), and had anxiously awaited the appearance of a new and important advocate. An excellent Churchman of my acquaintance gave an order to his newsman to procure the work when it came out, and expected he was ordering a pamphlet, but, to his surprise, came a 12s. volume! My object in thus addressing you, Sir, is to ask whether some respectful application cannot be made to the estimable author, to let us have at once a "People's Edition," by which hundreds of poor curates and other ministers, whose means are humble, and thousands of the working classes, may be privileged to become readers, and thereby be benefited.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. S. FEATHERSTONE.

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SIR,—The subject of the cause of the indifference of all classes of society to evangelical religion, is one which has had a place in my thoughts for some time past, and I have therefore read with considerable interest many of the letters of working men on the cause of its existence amongst themselves. It is not my intention in these lines to enlarge upon those causes, (though that is a work which it would be easy to enter upon,) but, with your permission, I would rather offer a few suggestions relating to the practicability of a remedy for the evils already dilated upon. I presume that your design in thus calling forth from the body of men amongst whom the evil principally exists, a statement of its causes, is, that, like a skilful physician, you may be the better enabled to give advice as to the best mode of remedy, and thus pave the way for a complete cure. I have, therefore, been somewhat surprised (considering that working men in general are noted for taking such practical views of things) that your correspondents have not advanced more suggestions relative to a comprehensive and effective remedy. Perhaps, however, they are leaving this most important consideration to you, and if such be the case, I hope these lines will not be considered premature on my part, as God is my witness, that I have none other than the purest motives, my only desire being His glory as manifested in the extension of the truth amongst mankind. When we consider the fact that the working classes of the present day constitute the most important body of society, numerically considered, (for with God there is no respect of persons,) and as being the class from which all others have sprung, and, further, that it was more expressly for them that the Church of Christ was established, the circumstance of their indifference to the cause of religion assumes a serious importance in the eyes of all thinking men, which it is difficult rightly to estimate, and the evil effects of which it is perhaps impossible to overrate. On the principle that love begets love, it seems that the indifference manifested by the church generally, both pastors and members, towards the present and eternal interests of the working classes, has begotten a like feeling of indifference on the part of the latter toward the cause of religion. Judging from the present stage of the correspondence, this seems to be a summary of the reasons assigned by your correspondents, and to the truth of which full evidence is borne by facts and every day experience. How then is it propose to remedy this evil? An answer seems to rise simultaneously in the mind and heart of every true believer in Christ. Do away with this indifference on the part of the church, and in its place let a spirit of love and care be fostered for the interests of the working classes, and a corresponding feeling will at once be begotten and evinced in them. Thus, at first sight, the remedy appears simple, and one which, by a general and simultaneous effort on the part of the Church, can at once be carried into effect. It has only to be mentioned, and held up to view, to be at once completed. But before coming to a conclusion so happy in its results, and so much to be desired by all who are interested in the welfare of Zion, let us pause awhile, and first ask ourselves, whether it is a result which the past and present history of the Church will warrant us to expect. Is it a result which we expect to see take place immediately, now that the causes of this great and acknowledged evil are made known through the columns of your widely-circulated paper? Doubtless, every mind will yield assent to the truth of the statements; but, alas! for the perverseness and depravity of the heart of man, the experience of the past goes to prove but too clearly, that something more than a mere conviction of the truth is necessary on the part of a man, to ensure his conformity and obedience to its requirements. Ministers of the present day, if we may judge by their public discourses, have as clear a theoretical knowledge of the grand requirements of their sacred calling as it is possible for them to have; and acquainted as we are with the practical results of such knowledge, we are almost compelled to conclude, that the warnings already given will, in too many instances, be totally disregarded. In some instances, doubtless, the truth will be received in meekness and love, and efforts will at once be put forth on their part to remove the stains which are the cause of such great and incalculable evils; but, in the majority of instances, we fear that such will not be the case. The evil is too deeply rooted to be so easily extirpated. A deep spirit of slumber has fallen upon the churches, for they are careless and unmindful of the present and eternal interests of the poor. A kind of castleship has been introduced from the world, which makes a member entitled to respect more on account of the quality of his garments and worldly wealth, than on mon has entered into the church, and its members have his piety and resemblance to his Lord and Master. Mammon refrained from rendering him homage and allegiance. Who, then, can wonder that the Head of the Church seems to have forsaken his own? Who can wonder at the decline in vital godliness, as exhibited in the life and conduct of the members, and seen also in the almost

universal decrease in all religious denominations during the several past years? The evil is one prevailing to an awful and alarming extent, and the remedy must be commensurate with the disease. "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon." It is high time to shake off the lethargic slumber. We hail with delight the symptoms of an approaching awakening, which are beginning to appear. You, Sir, have generously lent the aid of your valuable paper in a cause so holy, and your call has been in a measure responded to. We are encouraged to believe, that your assistance will not cease here, for the cause is a holy one, and Christians must not suffer it to rest. If we cast our eyes around us, we see immense activity in exercise for the extirpation and removal of abuses in all other institutions. Why not call forth a similar activity in the church? Committees and associations are established to inquire into the cause of the evils which are at work in our political, civil, and commercial relations, with a view to their reform and removal. Would it not be advisable to form a similar association, or conference, composed of all such as long to see the prosperity of Zion, to inquire into and hold discussion, on the cause of the present decline of the church in religion, life, and numbers? We have it recorded in history, that councils of the church were convoked whenever any momentous question had to be inquired into and settled. Eighteen hundred years have now elapsed since Christianity was first established, and are the results such as the faithful believer in Christ can rest satisfied with? No, indeed, they are not; for here in the middle of the nineteenth century, we see the cause of religion in our own country on the decline. Surely this is a subject of sufficient and momentous importance to justify the calling together of a general council of believers in the present day—a council composed of all sincere disciples of the truth, without distinction of sect or denomination. On such an assemblage, convened for a cause so holy, we cannot for a moment doubt that the Divine blessing, accompanied with an outpouring of His Spirit, would fail to rest; and that the conclusion arrived at, and resolutions passed, would be such as the exigency of the evil demands.

At any rate, I humbly submit the idea to the prayerful consideration of all who are interested in the welfare of Zion, and shall be happy to see any opinions on the subject which may be embodied in any further correspondence. Meanwhile, I remain, yours sincerely,
St. Alban's, Jan. 1, 1849. THEOPHILUS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you allow me to make one or two remarks on the very interesting subject now before your readers in reference to the working classes and religious institutions. It is to be hoped that many of these classes are attached to religious observances; but it is an obvious fact that, generally speaking, religious congregations exhibit a very small sprinkling of them, compared with other classes. It occurs to me that some of the causes of this have not been touched by your numerous correspondents. I wish to speak cautiously on such a subject, but I am afraid that there is something in the general system of religious teaching that does not meet the habits and modes of thinking of these classes, and that even calls up their prejudices. In the first place, the minister of such a congregation is generally one who has received an education specially for this vocation, and naturally adopts a style of language and a mode of address peculiar to the pulpit. To a certain extent, he exhibits himself as one who does not, as it were, belong to the working part of his audience; but whose desires and sympathies look up, and have a leaning to the more wealthy and higher portion of the congregation. Then, again, the chapel is generally of a fine and expensive character, one in which the plain working man does not feel himself at home, and in which he is apt to feel himself, if not an intruder, at least as an inferior. And in the next place, the keeping up of such a place of worship, and supporting the ministers, entails a heavy burden, of which the working man finds a difficulty in paying his proportion, but which his independent feelings make him shrink from freeing himself if he take his share of its advantages. If there be any truth in these remarks, it follows that the status of the teacher and the expense of the congregation, induce a state of matters uncongenial with the habits and pecuniary capabilities of these classes. It follows, also, that if the teaching could be performed by those who really and truly belong to the working classes, and at such a rate of expense as would be quite within their means, it would be more successful in securing their attention and co-operation. It may be thought that these ideas militate against an educated and paid ministry, and other things generally approved of; but no matter what present views they may come in contact with, if they tend to elicit truth. If they do so, in however small a degree, my object will be gained; and I may, with your permission, in a future letter, give my reasons for the opinions now expressed.
L.

JENNY LIND sang gratuitously at Birmingham on Thursday night, in aid of the funds of Queen's Hospital, in that town. Upwards of 3,000 persons were present. The receipts were £1,300.

WORKING MEN'S ESSAYS ON THE SABBATH.

On Wednesday a meeting, very numerous attended, was held in the large room, Exeter-hall, for the announcement of the adjudication and distribution of prizes to the successful competitors for the best essays by working men on the temporal advantages of the Sabbath to the labouring classes. Lord Ashley presided. The report stated that there were the prizes of £25, £15, and £10, the gift of John Henderson, of Glasgow; and about 77 prizes of £5. For these 1,045 competitors appeared, and amongst them a labourer's daughter, who wrote the "Pearl of Days," of which 16,000 copies have been sold. By the terms of the preliminary announcement, however, she could not receive a prize. The report stated that the essays generally displayed much theological knowledge, elevated moral sentiment, and considerable scientific attainments.

The Rev. E. BICKERSTETH moved the first resolution:

That the report of the adjudicators, presented to this meeting, affords a very gratifying view of the results of the attempt which has been made to call forth the energies and exertions of the labouring classes in defence of their Sabbath rights and privileges; and that these results are evidences of a movement the most hopeful for promoting the better observance of the Lord's-day that has yet been made.

In the course of his observations, the reverend gentleman said that he attributed the freedom from anarchy which this country enjoyed as compared with the nations on the continent to the better observance on the part of the people of the Lord's day. The government were now the only licensed traders in the country on the Lord's day. It was true that the money-order business of the Post-office had been given up, but they wanted a Post-office Sabbath throughout the whole land.

The Rev. A. THOMPSON, of Edinburgh, seconded the resolution. He objected to the statement that this was peculiarly a Scotch movement, as was proved by the fact that 400 of the competitors were Englishmen. It was impossible to account for the fact of so many good essays being written without arriving at the conclusion that the working men were earnestly engaged on the subject. They displayed a vigour of intellect equal to the muscular power with which they wielded sledge hammers, and many of them exhibited great eloquence—an eloquence not of the schools, but of the heart, and which seemed to be as natural to them as flight to the eagle. He believed that if they allowed the Sabbath to be given up for two years to amusement, on the third it would be bought up by commercial cupidity. The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. Dr. CUNNINGHAM moved the following resolution:

That considering the great temporal advantages of the Sabbath to the working classes, as well as the intimate connexion between its due observance and the social, political, commercial, and general welfare of the country, this meeting rejoices, with gratitude to God, that at a time when the nations of Europe were undergoing great revolutions, 1,045 British workmen stood forth as defenders of their Sabbath; and they hail this circumstance as highly favourable to the prospects of the country, while they earnestly point to it as an emphatic rebuke to all who would infringe the Sabbath right of the working classes, or tamper with the sacredness of the Lord's-day.

The Rev. J. A. JAMES seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. He believed that the Sabbath was the main prop of Christianity in every country. He believed that no other country in the world could have produced the same amount of religious mind. That was the result of their Sunday-school teaching, of their tract and Bible societies. Those were the true friends of the working classes, who endeavoured to preserve the Sabbath for them, and they were their traitors and destroyers who would take away from them, under any pretext whatever, the Lord's-day.

A prayer was then offered up by the Rev. Dr. Steane, after which the Rev. J. Jordan announced that the first prize of £25 was awarded to John Allan Quinton, compositor, of Ipswich; the second to John Younge, shoemaker, of St. Boswell's, Roxburghshire; the third to David Farquhar, mechanic, of Dundee. Amongst the successful £5 prizemen were two or three labourers and an old sailor, who was at present in the union workhouse, Cambridge.

In delivering Prince Albert's ten prizes, the CHAIRMAN said, that he was directed by his Royal Highness Prince Albert to deliver his ten prizes, and at the same time to express the deep satisfaction he felt, and he (Lord Ashley) might add the extreme satisfaction felt by her Most Gracious Majesty, on witnessing this movement which had taken place amongst the working classes. He was also commanded to express the deep interest they felt in the temporal and spiritual welfare of those worthy men. The other successful competitors who were present were then called up, and received the prizes in handsome purses. The appearance of Edward Fisher, of Wisbeach, a labourer, in his working jacket, produced the most lively applause.

The Rev. Dr. LEIFCHILD delivered an address to the competitors.

The meeting was next addressed by the Rev. W. Brock, and the Rev. W. Champneys, after which Mr. Quinton, the first prizeman, moved, and Mr. Younge, second prizeman, seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Henderson, the giver of the prizes, and the originator of the movement, which was briefly acknowledged by him. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

His LORDSHIP, in returning thanks, said that this was essentially a movement for limiting the hours of labour. He had heard doubts thrown out whether these essays were the productions of the working classes. He had now for the last eighteen years been brought into such close contact—he might say into such close intimacy—with many of the working classes, that his experience enabled him to establish

this, that many of the working men were intellectually, morally, and spiritually, capable of producing these admirable—he would not hesitate to say, marvellous—productions [hear, hear]. Whilst in other countries thrones and aristocracies were crumbling, and the foundations of society itself were shaken, this was a most happy circumstance in the history of this country, and it led him to believe that this Protestant country was yet reserved by God for higher purposes of mercy in the history of mankind [cheers]. It filled him with consolation, and gave him comfort in many dark moments of life when he saw so many of the working classes of this country who represented still larger masses, coming forward with zeal, love, knowledge, and fervour, in the assertion of this high and holy purpose. He was sure that both her Majesty and Prince Albert recognised this great truth—that whilst all things were subordinate to the Divine will, it would be found that piety and the fear of God were the glory and stability of empires [cheers].

A meeting of members of the Sabbath Reform Association was held on Friday evening, at Freemasons'-hall, to hear addresses from the working men to whom prizes had been adjudged for essays upon the necessity and value of the Christian Sabbath.

S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., having taken the chair, introduced, with some preliminary observations—

—GAGE, a servant, who proposed the first resolution, recognising the Sabbath as one of the brightest proofs of the wisdom and beneficence of the Almighty, and as tending, more than anything else, to improve the intellectual part of man's nature. The speaker complained of a report which had been circulated, that the successful essays had not been written by working men. He could speak from personal knowledge of their authenticity; and he rejoiced that, faulty as they might be in composition, they still contained truth, and the genuine sentiments of the class from which they had emanated. —WILLIAMS, a working potter, seconded the resolution.

The second resolution, which was proposed by —BROCK, a shoemaker, and seconded by —THOMAS, a house painter, was to the effect, that the Sabbath was absolutely necessary to the physical well-being of the human frame.

—BROWNING, a shoemaker, in moving the third resolution, which deprecated the tendency of modern enterprise to trench on the day of rest in railways, steamboats, &c., complained that clergymen, many of whom he saw upon the platform, were in the habit of rolling to the work of evangelization on the Sabbath-day in their carriages, thus necessitating its violation by their coachmen and footmen. He congratulated himself on the fact, that while the workmen of Paris had been revolutionizing their country, 1,047 English workmen had here quietly sat down to write essays on the Sabbath. They had often heard of the four estates of the realm—the Queen, Lords, Commons, and the Press. To those must now be added the working men, the fifth in rotation, but the most valuable to the first, being the best life guards and protectors of the Sovereign.

—FISHER, a labourer from Wisbeach, and who announced himself as a local preacher in the Wesleyan connexion, seconded the resolution.

The above resolutions were all carried unanimously.

The Rev. W. Brock moved a resolution pledging the meeting to a furtherance of the objects of the Association. In his opinion, all the men who had ever done any good in their generation were working men. There was not a harder working man in England than Lord Ashley, their late chairman. Franklin had been mentioned; but there was also Columbus, a weaver; Arkwright, a barber; Ben Jonson, a bricklayer; Carey, a cobbler; and, going higher up, the apostle Paul was a tentmaker; Peter was a fisherman; and the greatest of all, the Redeemer himself, was set down by the evangelist Mark as a carpenter. The object of the Association was unique, and he trusted would meet with general co-operation.

Mr. OAKLEY (one of the adjudicators), in seconding the resolution, eulogized the talent displayed in the 1,047 essays which had been submitted to his inspection. Many of them had Greek mottoes, and in others, although the composition was faulty, there were brilliant thoughts, evincing the highest order of intellect. A member of Parliament had told him, that in equal proportion he doubted if the House of Commons could have turned out such a collection [a laugh].

Thanks were voted to the chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

THE "TIMES" NEW PRINTING MACHINE.—The Times, in a long leading article, gives a description of a new printing machine, which has been for the past two months in use in that office, whereby the extraordinary number of 140 copies can be thrown off in a minute. It is a machine having eight cylinders. Hitherto, the rate at which it has been worked is about 1,000 revolutions per hour, or 8,000 impressions; but it is probable that it will be ultimately worked to 12,000 copies an hour. The name of the gentleman who constructed this wonderful piece of mechanism is Mr. Augustus Applegarth, of Dartford.

COST OF THE CHARTIST MEETINGS IN APRIL LAST.—An extract from the County Treasurer's account shows that the sums repaid by him to the churchwardens of the various parishes in Middlesex, for expenses incurred by them in providing staves and other necessary articles for the use of the special constables, in April 1848, amounted to £1,043 14s. 8d. Paddington, £188 9s.; Hackney, £157 9s. 7d.

REV. BAPTIST NOEL'S BOOK.

The appearance of Mr. Macaulay's "History of England," and of Mr. Noel's "Essay on the Union of Church and State," have been the most memorable incidents in the literary history of the year just concluded; for although expensive works, both were out of print almost immediately on their publication. The latter, indeed, went off in a few hours, on Friday, and as the edition was quite insufficient to meet the wants of the trade, it has since, we understand, been selling at a premium. As yet it has scarcely been noticed by the press, though it has become the subject of animated discussion in private circles, where the greatest anxiety is manifested for further information as to its contents. Under these circumstances, and bearing in mind that the price of the volume will place it beyond the reach of many of our readers, we believe that we shall be rendering an acceptable service by extracting several of the more important passages. Our selection must necessarily have regard to space rather than to arrangement; but it will be less from the argumentative portions of the volume than from those containing Mr. Noel's testimony to the working of the State-church system, and which forms a series of "Pictures of the State-church."

HOW THE MINISTERS OF THE STATE-CHURCH ARE APPOINTED.

"The parochial churches of Christ within the Establishment, being about 11,000, the pastors of 962 are chosen by the Crown; 1,248 are chosen by bishops and archbishops; 787, by deans and chapters; 1,851, by other dignitaries; 721, by colleges; 6,996, by private patrons. (*McCulloch's Statistics*.) When a patron presents a minister to a bishop to be settled as the pastor of a church, the church has no voice in the transaction. The bishop is almost as powerless; for, unless he can prove the nominee to be legally disqualified, he must admit him to the pastoral charge. That the nominee is offensive to the people, infirm, indolent, with little talent, slender theological attainments, and few virtues; that he is ill-tempered, or eccentric; that he hunts and shoots, attends at balls, and plays cards, are no legal disqualifications. Unless the bishop can prove him to be heretical or immoral, he must admit him to be the pastor, or the patron would obtain damages against the bishop in an action of *quare impedit* in the Temporal Court, and the rejected nominee would obtain a judgment against him in the Ecclesiastical Court by a suit of *duplex querela*. If in this latter case the bishop do not prove his charge, or if the cause of his refusal to institute be insufficient in law, the archbishop decrees that the nominee shall be instituted, and the bishop is condemned in the expenses.—(*Burn.*) By this state of the law, whenever the patron chooses an unfit and obnoxious person out of fifteen thousand ecclesiastics, of whom many are ungodly, to be the pastor of any church, neither the bishop nor the church can oppose any direct hindrance. If he be not legally disqualified he must be admitted.

Few things can be more important to a church than the choice of its pastor. . . . Yet in this important duty a church within the Establishment has no voice. The patron, the nominee, and the bishop, may be all worldly men, who care nothing for their spiritual welfare; but the nominee, backed by his patron, and aided by the bishop, may despise the reluctance of the church, and assume against their will the direction of their worship, the government of their schools, and the whole pastoral superintendence of their parish. It is true, that assuming to guide them to heaven he does not know the way thither himself, but they must place themselves under his guidance because they wish to avoid paying his salary. Men do not act thus in matters of far less moment. The same persons who quietly allow strangers to nominate their pastor would resent a similar dictation respecting any other functionary. They would allow no stranger to nominate the tutor to instruct their children, the physician to attend their families, the lawyer to transact their business, or the member to represent them in Parliament. And yet the qualifications of their pastor exercise a more powerful influence upon them for good or evil than any one of these professional or public men.

"To transfer an unrestricted right of choosing their pastor to any patron, however wise and pious, would be culpable rashness; but the patrons to whom the Anglican churches commit this right are peculiarly unfitted to exercise it. The right is obtained not by their personal excellence, nor by an election to it, but from the accident that they hold the estate which pays the salary, or have purchased the right from those who hold it. Thus persons of all degrees of imbecility, ignorance, irreligion, and immorality, may choose pastors for the Anglican churches out of a body of fifteen thousand ecclesiastics, among whom there are numbers of irreligious and unconverted men. And since these patrons are generally rich, and 'it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God,' they are, as a class, more likely to be irreligious than others are, and thus far less capable of estimating rightly the qualifications of a good pastor. It makes the matter worse, that this right is often separated from the possession of the estate which originally conveyed it, so that the patron may be a stranger to the people, and totally

regardless of their welfare. To such hands have the eleven thousand parochial churches of the Establishment consented, for the sake of the salaries, to transfer the right of choosing their pastors. . . .

"What right has the patron to nominate the pastor? His estate qualifies him to furnish the salary, but, as it gives him neither talent, nor piety, nor even good morals, it does not qualify him to choose the pastor; nor can it convey the right to do so.

"If it be replied that the State has enacted this arrangement, we must ask, Who gave the State authority thus to interfere with the prescribed duties of the Church? The State has no such right; and if it has usurped the right of the Church by means of the salary, the Church is bound to relinquish the salary and to recover the right. It is bound to recover its independence, however excellent the intrusive pastor might be; but the mischief becomes still more intense when the pastor to be forced upon them is ungodly.

"The mischief which is done to a church by the appointment of an ungodly minister, demonstrates the magnitude of the injury which the whole Establishment must suffer from this cause. If it be as intolerable an evil to an evangelical church to have an ungodly pastor as for a flock to have a wolf for its shepherd, a crew when tossed by the tempest to have a drunkard for their captain, or for an army in an enemy's country to have a traitor for their general, it must be intolerable to the Establishment to have many of its churches misled by many such pastors. But as long as the system of patronage lasts, this evil must continue. The rich patrons of this country are not generally evangelical and godly, and therefore do not nominate evangelical and godly pastors; and ungodly pastors can never form and build up evangelical and godly churches. Thus this single evil of patronage secures that the churches of the Establishment shall continue, as they have ever been to a great extent, ignorant and irreligious. Irreligious patrons are a corrupt foundation for the Establishment, which no improvements in the details of its administration can ever rectify; and patronage must ever be a source of mischief so prolific that the churches of the Establishment, without such miracles of grace as this disregard of the authority of Christ forbids us to expect, must still remain ignorant and irreligious."

HOW THE STATE-CHURCH MINISTERS ARE SUPPORTED.

"There is a marked contrast between the system which Christ has ordained for the maintenance of his ministers, and that which has been preferred by the Anglican Churches under the Union. . . .

"According to the law of Christ, he should be maintained by the believers; according to the Union, he is maintained by persons of every class, including Roman Catholics, Unitarians, infidels, and profligates.

"According to the law of Christ he should be maintained by those who contribute of their own property; according to the Union, the State has voted away the property of others to maintain him.

"According to the law of Christ, all the offerings made for his support should be free; by the Union, they are paid under the terror of distraint.

"The moral influences of these two systems for the support of the ministers of Christ are very opposite.

"The system appointed by Christ is the most just, because, according to it, those only pay for instruction who receive it; while, according to the Anglican system, all must pay, whether they receive it or not.

"The system appointed by Christ exercises the faith and love of believers, who thus make a grateful offering to him; but the Anglican system extorts from unbelievers, by fear of the law, a tax which is reluctantly paid to the State.

"The system appointed by Christ is much more for the comfort of a pious minister, because he can receive with thankfulness and joy what his brethren contribute with liberality and affection, in duty to Christ and in justice to him; while under the Anglican system he must extort his income by force of law, from those who, possibly, curse both him and his religion while they pay it.

"The system appointed by Christ tends to attract both ministers and people to each other, since under it ministers, receiving their support from the affection of their flocks, feel grateful for it, and the people find that to do a kindness is as much a source of affection as to receive it; but the Anglican system alienates both parties, the pastor having to complain of arrears and of evasions of payment, while the flock are tempted to think their shepherd selfish and severe.

"The system of Christ manifests to the world the power of religion, which they can in some degree measure by the sacrifices which Christians freely make for its support; while the Anglican system makes the world believe that Christians are as selfish and as covetous as they are themselves, and would not support their pastors unless they were forced to do so.

"Lastly, according to the system appointed by Christ, the best ministers are generally the best supported, because Christians can appreciate grace as well as gifts in their pastors; but under the Anglican system, the richest livings go to those who are related to patrons, and thus the worst ministers are frequently the best paid, and the churches are beset with those who have sought the ministry only for its emoluments.

"If these observations are correct, Christians who allow their pastors to be paid by the State disregard the will of Christ; impeach his wisdom; neglect their duty; injure their Christian characters; manifest a worldly selfishness by seeking to escape from

a just remuneration for services received; beg alms for Christ's officers from Christ's enemies; excite prejudice against the gospel in the minds of irreligious tithe payers; impair the use of the ministry; place the ministers of Christ under the pay and influence of ungodly persons; and proclaim to the world, that the disciples of Christ cannot maintain his worship and publish his truth unless worldly men and unbelievers of every class will help them."

A SKETCH OF THE STATE-CHURCH MINISTERS.

"What are the pastors of the Anglican churches in fact? I grieve to write it. There are men among them of great virtues, to whom I gladly do homage. I know and love many faithful, energetic, and sincere servants of Christ; but when these exceptions are subtracted, what are the rest? I grieve to write it. Chosen by peers and squires; by colleges and church corporations; by chancellors and state-made prelates; many are made pastors by a corrupt favouritism; many are allured to an uncongenial employment by the income which it offers them; and many embrace the profession of a pastor, because they are too dull, inert, or timid for any other. They have scarcely any theological training; they are pledged to all the errors in the Prayer-book, and all the abuses sanctioned by the Union; they dread reforms; they are servile to patrons, they are intolerant to Dissenters; their zeal is crippled by state-restrictions, and their indolence tempted by unbounded liberty to indulge it. Severed from the body of the people by their birth—by their early education—by their college life—by their aristocratical associations—by their zeal for their ecclesiastical prerogatives; they have little popular influence. Lawyers, men of science, and editors of newspapers, do not listen to them; Chartists and Socialists dislike and despise them: they scarcely touch the operative millions; they make few converts among the devotees of fashion, and under their leadership, the Christian army is inert, timid, and unsuccessful."

UNEXPECTED INTERVIEW WITH HER MAJESTY.—A respectable correspondent favours us with the following:—"Among the many visitors to the late cattle show in London was a Norfolk farmer, who, on his return home by train, entered into conversation with a fellow-traveller, and gave him the following account of what had befallen him, and of the unexpected company into which he had been most extraordinarily introduced. After, said he, I had been to the show, and carefully examined the different animals, and given my meed of praise to their breeders and their feeders, I thought I would devote a spare hour to another exhibition in the same neighbourhood, Madame Tussaud's celebrated Wax Work. Accordingly I presented myself at the door, and paid my money. On entering I was surprised to find myself the only spectator. Undisturbed for some time, I wandered about, looking with astonishment at the waxen effigies, habited in their gorgeous apparel. In a few minutes some ladies and children arrived, and standing near to one of the former, I observed, 'what ugly, grim-looking people some of those kings and queens were.' The lady smiled, and answered, 'I perfectly agree with you; they are.' My attention was soon arrested by hearing one of the party, pointing to a figure, mention Lord Nelson, when proud of having been born in the same county with the illustrious sailor, I could not help exclaiming, 'Ah, he was from my neighbourhood; upon which one of the ladies advancing, said to me, 'Then you are from Norfolk; pray can you tell me anything about poor Mrs. Jermy, in whose melancholy fate I so deeply sympathize? Have you any information different from that which has appeared in the public papers?' To which I replied, 'No Madam, for I have been some days from home.' Scarcely had this conversation ended, when Madame Tussaud entered, and seeing me there, asked me how I got in, and if I did not know she had forbidden the entrance of any one. I replied, 'I did not, but having paid my money had walked in as a matter of course.' Judge of my surprise, when she informed me I had had the honour of speaking to none other than our good and gracious Queen, and that the lady whose tender anxiety had been so warmly expressed for the injured widow of Stanfield Hall, was the same illustrious person, whose exalted rank does not, however, so elevate her, but that the misfortunes and afflictions of others can reach her heart and excite her generous commiseration. The party who accompanied her Majesty were the royal children and their attendants."

NEWSPAPER CHANGES.—The commencement of the new year has given occasion to several changes in the newspaper world. From an article given elsewhere, it will be seen that the *Daily News* is to be raised in price and enlarged. Undaunted, however, by the confessed failure of the "cheap" newspaper, the friends of radical reform in Birmingham have commenced a new organ for that locality. The *Birmingham Mercury*, which started into existence on Saturday last, will be 3d. It is the advocate of popular rights, in the largest sense. We heartily wish it success. Amongst the London weekly newspapers there is a strong tendency to enlargement—in fact, quite a competition in this respect amongst the Sunday newspapers. Several of our provincial contemporaries are also increasing in size, amongst which may be especially noticed the *Western Times* (Bishop Phillips' witty and troublesome opponent), and the *Plymouth Journal*, of kindred character and politics. It is not a little significant and gratifying, that whilst four out of the six London morning journals are decided sticklers for things as they are, all the best-edited and most widely-circulated newspapers in the country are advocates of liberal principles.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

PROGRAMME OF THE NEW MINISTRY.

In the National Assembly, on Tuesday week, M. O. Barrot, President of the Council, having appeared at the tribune, silence was immediately restored. The Assembly, he said, had learned the declaration of principles made by the President of the Republic, in which the new Cabinet fully concurred, and he now came forward to repeat the same engagements, in presence of France and Europe. He did not intend to lay before the Assembly an *exposé* of the situation of the country, but would give some explanations relative to the principle on which the Cabinet had been constituted, and the political course it intended to pursue. The Cabinet was composed of men belonging to the different political shades that had united in the election of the 10th of December. The nation had evinced such an accord, such a spirit of union, that the Cabinet should respond to it. It would neither be patriotic nor wise to disregard such a manifestation. The country wished for order, for material and moral order; order in the streets as well as in the Administration and Government. That order could only be firmly established on the day when the period of revolutionary agitation should be closed. In strongly constituting the national force it had given the best guarantee of its determination to maintain order, and it had thereby put it out of the question that it could be disturbed in future. Security was the first want of all. It was indispensable that calmness and confidence in the future be restored, as otherwise manufactures and trade would not revive. Symptoms already perceptible showed that the resumption of affairs was not a mere hope, but a reality. Agriculture, trade, and manufactures had of late considerably suffered, and cruel sacrifices had been required from the first (the 45 centimes). The new Cabinet would exert itself to introduce the severest economy in the public expenditure, and to impart a salutary impulse to public works, which was far preferable to their direct execution by the State. Its efforts would tend to encourage individual activity. M. Odilon Barrot then added that he would not enter on any *exposé* of the foreign affairs of France. Negotiations were pending which imposed great reserve on the Government. All he could say was, that the Cabinet would not rashly engage the word of France, and that it would exert itself to preserve peace as the interest of France and Europe. In conclusion, he declared, that he and his colleagues would do everything in their power to restore security, consolidate the Republic, and promote the development of the political education of the country. The election of the 10th of December had given the Government an immense power, and it relied on the patriotic co-operation of the Assembly to enable it to accomplish its duties.

MILITARY POWERS OF GENERAL CHANGARNIER.

M. Ledru Rollin put some interpellations to the Government with respect to the military powers conferred upon General Changarnier, Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard of Paris and of the First Military Division. General Changarnier had been invested, M. Ledru Rollin said, with power contrary to the constitution, and to the law of 1832: he was irresponsible, and could become dangerous to the liberties of the country.

The President of the Council replied:—

I shall never blame any scruple that may be felt concerning any matter which may appear to weaken the constitution. When the debate is brought on that ground, I shall accept it, not only with the utmost readiness, but with a religious respect. We are accused of violating the first principle which ought to direct every Ministry—namely, that of our responsibility. We reply, that the responsibility of the Government is complete [denial on the Left]. Yes, complete ["No, no!"] The responsibility of the whole Government, I say, is complete, and that of the Minister of War in particular [renewed cries of "No, no!" from the extreme Left].

The President: If the Assembly will thus interrupt, all discussion is impossible.

The President of the Council: We are obliged to look narrowly to the security of Paris; and we are convinced that this important object cannot be fully attained unless full power over the troops, over all the forces in the capital, be placed in one hand [renewed interruption]. I say that, outside that view of the question, the appointment of the officer in command is merely a matter of appreciation [repeated marks of dissatisfaction on the Left]. We are quite prepared to answer for the security of the capital with the present arrangement, and therefore it is that we have decided on it. The Minister of War has not given up his authority or his responsibility to any one whatever. He had a right to give the command to General Changarnier, as a matter of provident care. ["No, no," "Yes, yes."] We are not in ordinary times: we cannot forget the dreadful scenes which took place a few months back; and we feel it our duty to take care to prevent their again occurring [cheers]. Unless security were restored, confidence would never return. The army which attacked society was not yet fully dissolved, and a slight neglect might encourage it to another aggression; and the Republic might not be able to support a repetition of the violent shocks witnessed in June. The arrangement is only temporary. Wait till security be established fully, and then you may proclaim the Republic to be imperishable, and the happiness of the country safe [hear, hear].

M. Léon de Malleville, the Minister of the Interior, commented with satirical humour on M. Ledru Rollin's new-born anxiety in favour of the legal.

Several motions to resume the order of the day, some conditionally, others simply, were handed to the President of the Assembly. One of the latter was read, and was adopted without division.

FINANCE—THE SALT-DUTY.

On Wednesday, M. Passy made his first speech as Republican Minister of Finance, in the discussion on the Salt-duty Bill: he demanded the maintenance of the present duties until the 1st of January, 1850—for six months longer than was recommended by the Committee; and in support of his demand made some general financial statements to the Assembly.

He did not for a moment contest the oppressiveness of the duty; but the state of the finances would not permit them to give up the twenty-three millions which the duty furnishes. He would state "the situation" with the utmost plainness. His predecessor had informed them that the whole deficiency in the Treasury at the end of 1849 would be 460 millions. Now, 38 millions must be restored to the savings-banks on the 1st of January, 1850. The deficiency of the year 1849, after the final settlement of the budget, was put at 91 millions; but facts already known would swell that sum to 166 millions; and M. Passy recapitulated evidences to show that his predecessor had in like manner underrated unforeseen expenses and overrated augmentations of revenues. On the whole, he estimates the deficiency at 100,000,000 francs beyond his predecessor's total of 460,000,000 francs. M. Passy would absolutely set his face against any other new imposts at present: it was no time for experiments in new taxes; but that determination on the part of the Government rendered it the more resolved to maintain those in existence. (M. Passy concluded amidst applause, and many Deputies hastened to salute him as he resumed his seat.)

The Assembly resumed the discussion of the bill relative to the salt-tax on Thursday. M. Bourzat moved an amendment to the effect, that the duty should be reduced to one-fourth of its present amount from and after the 1st of January, 1849. To meet the deficiency in the revenue which the reduction would create, he proposed that certain Ministerial officers should increase the caution-money which they deposit in the hands of Government. The amendment was negatived by 417 votes to 336. M. Anglade then proposed that the duty should be reduced to 10 francs per 100 kilogrammes from and after the 1st January, 1849, and that it should be completely suppressed on the 1st January, 1850. The Assembly divided on the first part of this amendment, when it was adopted, by a majority of 403 votes to 360. This result created a great degree of agitation. The second part of the amendment was abandoned by M. Anglade; but it was again brought forward by M. Vezin, and, on a division, rejected by a large majority. Ultimately, the ensemble of the bill was carried, by 372 votes to 363.

The immediate consequence of this last vote was a fall of nearly two per cent. in the Five per Cents.

Subsequent advices impart a serious turn to the affair: letters of Friday evening state that the Ministry had been thrown into disorder by the adverse vote. At a meeting of Cabinet members held in General Changarnier's house, Messieurs Léon de Malleville, Passy, and Bixio, declared that they would resign. M. Bixio alleged as an additional reason, that a letter had been written by the President of the Republic to the *Constitutionnel*. MM. Passy and Bixio were pacified, but M. Léon de Malleville persisted in his desire to resign. However, at a regular Cabinet meeting, held later in the day, the other Ministers succeeded in persuading him to retain office. Marshal Bugeaud is mentioned as having attended at the Cabinet meeting, though he is no Minister.

The decision of the Assembly is very generally condemned in the press, even by journals that had maintained a neutral position. The *Constitutionnel* thus accounts for the adverse majority, by analyzing its composition:—

It consists, in the first place, of timid men, who are preparing for their re-election, even at the price of confusion to our finances, and who imagine that that which is most necessary for France is to abolish a tax, even at the risk of rendering soon inevitable the adoption of some much heavier impost. In the second place, there are the adversaries of the new régime, who are numerous in the Assembly, and who avenge themselves on the budget for the check which the country gave them in the election of the President of the Republic. Lastly, the majority is completed by the group of Montagnards or Socialists, who perceive a chance for their ideas in every public embarrassment, and in every financial disorder.

REDUCTION OF MILITARY EXPENDITURE.—On Thursday, the Bureaux of the Assembly appointed a committee of fifteen, one representative of each Bureau, to prepare a project of law on the Army system. Among the members was General Cavaignac, who was elected unanimously by his Bureau: he had made a speech advocating economy in finances and reduction of the Army. In Cavaignac's opinion, "A Republican government ought to direct all its efforts for the establishment and maintenance of a general peace; and France should set the example to other states, by a large reduction of her armed force." It is said that similar sentiments were expressed in nearly all the Bureaux; and that "there is every reason to believe that the French army will speedily be organized on a system totally different from the present."

LOUIS NAPOLEON AND M. ARMAND MARRAST.—Galignani's Messenger of Thursday describes a visit of ceremony paid by the President of the Republic to M. Armand Marrast, the President of the Assembly, on that day. It appears to have been regulated with Imperial punctilio:—"At 11 o'clock, the President arrived in a coupé with a pair of horses, accompanied only by M. Edgar Ney de la Moscowa, his Aide-de-camp. M. Louis Napoleon Buonaparte wore a plain black coat, buttoned up in front, with

the star of the Legion of Honour on the breast. His servants wear the livery of the Emperor Napoleon; consisting of a green coat, with gold buttons, black plush breeches, and silk stockings. The intended visit having been made known, police agents were stationed along the whole line from the Elysée National to the Palace of the National Assembly; so that the carriage of the President might not meet with any impediment either in going or returning. Colonel Cauvin du Bourget, the Military Governor of the Assembly, had the whole of the guard under arms. It was composed of some of the veterans of the Army, two companies of the 7th Light Infantry, and a battalion of the 6th Legion of the National Guard, which last displayed its flag, and the band continued to perform national airs until the departure of the President of the Republic. Colonel Cauvin received him on alighting from his carriage, and conducted him to the entrance of the state-rooms, where M. Marrast met him, and conducted him to the saloon of honour. The visit lasted three-quarters of an hour; at the expiration of which, the President of the Republic was re-conducted to his carriage with the same ceremony. When, a few days ago, M. Marrast went to visit M. Louis Napoleon Buonaparte, he was treated with the same respect."

The *Moniteur* publishes a decree, signed by the President of the Republic, re-establishing the five Professorships of the College of France, suppressed on the 7th of April by the Provisional Government. M. Michel Chevalier is replaced in the chair of Political Economy.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

Two chief Ministers, M. de Maleville, Minister of the Interior, and M. Bixio, Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, have resigned; and the place of the former has been filled up by the transfer of M. Leon Faucher from the office of Public Instruction, in which he is succeeded by M. Lacroze, one of the Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly, and that of the latter by the appointment of M. Buffet, a Member of the Assembly. The cause of these changes is somewhat differently stated. It is alleged that the President having thought proper to make an appointment which, in the opinion of M. de Maleville, belonged to his department, that Minister refused to countersign it; that the Prince resented the affront in a haughty epistle; and that the Minister, acting upon the opinion of M. Thiers, whom he consulted, immediately tendered his resignation, which was accepted. It is added that M. Bixio, sympathizing with his colleague, likewise sent in his resignation, which was also accepted. The appointment proposed by M. Louis Buonaparte, and rejected by M. de Maleville, was that of Count Nieuwerkerke, a sculptor, to the post of Director of the Fine Arts. This appointment was understood to have been made at the urgent request of the Princess Demidoff. Other causes are assigned to account for this awkward quarrel. It is stated that the President demanded from M. de Maleville three letters which the Prince had addressed to Louis Philippe after the affair of Strasbourg, and which remain deposited in the archives of the Ministry of the Interior. These letters M. de Maleville refused to give up. It is further affirmed that the President required to have the telegraphic despatches communicated to him, as well as other details of the Administration, which M. Leon de Maleville thought it his duty to withhold. The Correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* joins all these causes together. It is added that the Prince, in Council, expressed, with great irritability, the opinion that the Ministers he had named seemed to take no notice of him, and that he would not bear it. "M. Louis Napoleon," slyly observes the *National*, "wishes to govern. Be it so; but let him beware of those around him: he has friends who are clumsy and likely to compromise him. The counsels which are dropped into his ear, may carry him far; let him beware, however, on his way, of clashing with the constitution." M. Thiers, by whose advice M. de Maleville threw up his portfolio, is affirmed to be still on the best terms with the President, and to have been closeted with him for a long time on Saturday morning.

PROPOSED AMNESTY.—In the National Assembly on Saturday, M. Bac rose, and said, it was the general belief that, after the promulgation of the President of the Republic, the Ministry would bring forward an amnesty. He proposed that Wednesday be fixed for the discussion of that question. M. Odilon Barrot, President of the Council, said, that the Cabinet had been seriously pre-occupied with the measure, and he declared that it accepted the words of the President of the Republic as its political symbol. It was the object of the most ardent and sincere wishes of ministers to attach their names to such an act, but they should consider if public security permitted the Government to hearken without danger to the voice of generosity. ("Of humanity," exclaimed some voices on the Left. Loud expostulations on the Right). The Government could not think of restoring to liberty the men who had deluged the capital with blood, until they gave guarantees to society, and until public security was completely re-established. Then, and then alone, would the Cabinet submit a measure of clemency to the deliberation of the Assembly. After a few words in reply from M. Bac, who still insisted on the question being discussed on Wednesday, the Assembly passed to the order of the day, by an immense majority.

THE PROPOSITION FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY has been printed and circulated. It is to the effect, that the elections for the Legislative Assembly shall take place on March 4th; that that Assembly shall be convoked for the 19th, on which day the functions of the present Assembly shall terminate, and that, in the meanwhile, the present

Assembly shall confine its discussions to the electoral law and the law relative to the Council of State. This project, which has been declared "urgent," has been referred to the Committee of Justice and Legislation.

ITALY.

PROSPECT FOR A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

In the Roman Chamber of Deputies, on the 18th ult., the Ministers tendered their resignations, and requested that they should be accepted by the Chambers; but stated they would not absolutely resign till a superior Commission of Government should have been appointed. M. Buonaparte proposed, in the present difficult circumstances, to vote the convocation of a Constituent Assembly for the Pontifical States. "I have prepared a project, according to which the representatives are to be directly elected by universal suffrage, in the proportion of one deputy for every 1,000 inhabitants. The deputies will be returned on the 10th of January, so that the Constituent may meet on the 15th. The deputies shall receive an indemnity of two crowns per day. The Constituent will decide on the form of government." This remained under consideration.

According to the *Conciliatore* of Florence, three different projects had been presented to the Pope, at Gaeta. The first, breathing reaction and Austrian and Neapolitan intervention, Pius has rejected. According to the second, the Pope is to name a Regent for temporal affairs, and himself to travel through Catholic Europe—or, rather, France, Germany, and Ireland—to check heterodoxy and schism. The Pontiff is then to convoke a great European Council, to bring about a solemn pact of peace and concord between all the dissident parties. Pius commended this project for its charity and grandeur, but objected to it, as too Utopian for existing circumstances, and as impracticable. The last project, which is that of the diplomatic body at Gaeta, is that the Pope should go into some city of his own—Civita Vecchia, Bologna, or Ancona—and there open conferences with the political parties. It is said that the Pope, pressed to a decision, replied: "The madness of the Romans still subsists; I will wait until the eclipse of their reason is passed." The Triumvirate consists of its two original members, the senators of Rome and Ancona (Corsini and Camerata), with the addition of Galletti in the room of the senator of Bologna. Corsini has done much to preserve order, by coming forward at his age (eighty-two) in the time of peril; and as he can boast, not only of Popes, but of a canonized saint (Andrea Corsini), in his family annals, no one can call the Triumvirate of which he is one, a mere offshoot of democracy.

THE POPE.—The *Presse*, in noticing the announcement of the Toulon journals, that the Pope is expected in France, says that it has reason to believe that he will come only to pass over to the Balearic Islands.

AUSTRIA.

In the Austrian National Assembly, on the 20th December, Strobach was elected President in place of Smolka, who acted as President of the Assembly during the period of the Vienna insurrection. This was deemed a Ministerial triumph. The sitting of the 21st, which lasted nine hours, was chiefly occupied with a debate on the credit to be voted to the Government. After the rejection of a host of amendments, the amended proposal of the Commission of Finance, empowering the Ministry to contract a loan of eighty millions for the service of the ensuing year, 1849, was adopted, by a slender majority.

The accounts from Hungary are contradictory: but there is no reason to believe that the Hungarians will make much stand against the Imperial generals. The whole force converging upon Buda is upwards of 100,000 men, with 300 pieces of artillery. The *Times* correspondent states that the plan of Prince Windischgrätz is to lay siege to Raab, where the bulk of his force is concentrated, and to advance on Pesth by forced marches as soon as the siege of Raab shall have attracted the Magyar troops to the vicinity of that fortress with a view of harassing the Imperialists. If the Hungarians, however, avoid this snare, they have little to fear, as the severity of the weather is already fighting for them most effectually, and daily carrying off numbers of the Imperial soldiers.

It would appear, by an article in the *Weiner Zeitung*, that the Austrian Government, in case the Imperialists gain the upper hand in Hungary, are determined to break up that "kingdom," as at present formed; in other words, to declare the *annexæ partes* (such as Croatia, Slavonia, &c.) altogether independent of the Magyars, who will, consequently, be confined to their geographical limits. The same journal declares, that the Austrian Government has resolved to maintain the rights of the house of Hapsburg in Lombardy and Venice, and that they consider the re-possession of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom as definitive.

The young Emperor was expected to arrive in Vienna on New Year's Day.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia and his Ministers are proceeding with their measures of restoration. They have resolved to fortify the thirteen gates of Berlin, without even waiting the consent of the Chambers. Another ex-deputy, Herr Rodbertus, has been ordered to quit Berlin; and Baron von Reden, a member of the National Assembly at Frankfurt, has been dismissed from his post in the office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, because he refused to sign the Address in which the majority of the Prussian members of that Assembly condemned the proceedings of Herr von Unruh and his partizans in Berlin. At Berlin, the most prominent topics of conversa-

tion in political circles were the alliance between the Prussian, Austrian, and Russian Courts, the articles of which alliance (it is asserted) will be shortly published; and the approaching departure of General Wrangel for the Rhenish province. "Here's to the next drops on the beautiful and free Rhine," was one of the toasts which the military dictator of Berlin lately gave at a dinner to his officers, after calling on them to fill their glasses to the brim. The number of troops in the city is being gradually lessened, and it appears probable that the military régime of the state of siege will be relaxed by degrees, not suspended or removed suddenly. Reports are continually circulated of pending changes in the Ministry, but as yet they are but rumours. Some curiosity has been excited by the fact that, even after the dissolution of the late Assembly the incomplete fittings of the Cathedral of Brandenburg, as the place of meeting, were finished by the workmen quite methodically; nor have any steps been taken to restore the church to a state fit for the celebration of Divine worship.

SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN.

The Legislative Chambers of Schleswig Holstein re-assembled at Kiel on the 27th ult. It is thought that, besides voting the ordinary taxes for the year 1849, they will declare in favour of a war-tax, no hopes of an amicable termination of the dispute with Denmark being entertained. There are some faint rumours respecting a note, said to be addressed to the Danish Government by Lord Palmerston, demanding the evacuation of the island of Alsens, which the Danes have now rendered all but impregnable. Letters from Hamburg state that much apprehension exists respecting the state of affairs in Schleswig Holstein, and that there is very little desire on the part of the inhabitants of that free city to embark again in the cause of the duchies.

SPAIN.

The Queen's forces are now very numerous—some say, 55,000 men—in the north of the kingdom. In a proclamation to the troops of Catalonia, General De la Concha announces, that the war against the Carlists will be prosecuted with vigour, notwithstanding the unfavourable season. A bando of the Captain-General of Arragon declares, that one insurgent in every five taken with arms shall be shot. In virtue of this bando, an insurgent had been shot.

The official accounts of the civil war show that the Queen's troops were worsted in their recent encounter with the Catalan insurgents at Albana, and that the advantages gained by them are little better than nominal. Cabrera, with 2,200 men, very nearly took Gerona by a *coup de main* on the 17th, and was only prevented by the arrival of reinforcements from various quarters.

The persecution of the Progressistas continues, and hundreds have been ordered to the penal settlements without any form of trial.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Cape of Good Hope papers to the 29th of October have arrived. His Excellency, Sir H. Smith, after being away from the seat of government for eighty-three days, for the purpose of extinguishing the rebellion beyond the Orange River, which he had fully accomplished, returned home on the 19th. Everything was quiet along the frontier, and the inhabitants had resumed their accustomed avocations. Pretorius had but few followers; and, after reaching Magaliesberg, he proceeded some hundred miles into the interior in search of his family, upon meeting whom he learned that his wife was dead, and that his eldest son was lying dangerously ill. Upon his return journey, Sir H. Smith received various congratulatory addresses upon the complete success of his expedition.

The local journals contain the following report of an interview between Sir H. Smith and the chief Krelis:—

The Governor expressed himself delighted to see Krelis, as he was his child, and when he saw him last Krelis was a little boy. When his (Krelis') father expressed great anger with him, he (the Governor) begged him off, because he told his father he was but a child. He inquired of Krelis whether he recollected that circumstance? Krelis replied, "He did." Krelis then asked for the Governor's hand, which he kissed, expressing his heartfelt satisfaction at once more being in the presence of the Inkosi Inkulu. Krelis replied, "My heart is now at rest, having found and shaken hands with my father." On parting, the Governor desired Krelis to go home and live in peace. "There is Fynn," said his Excellency, "who is my mouth. When you wish to speak to your father tell Fynn, and he will write me all you have to say. Remember me to your mother, Numso—mind you don't forget." The Governor asked Krelis whether he went to chapel. He said he was not near enough. The Governor advised him to go and hear God's word. "You will never be right," said his Excellency, "until you do, and become a good Christian." Mr. Fynn, the commissioner for Krelis's tribe, then stated that he had now resided twelve years with Krelis, and had always found him a well-disposed man. His Excellency said, "I am glad to hear it. I will tell you how I do—I listen to all, I then judge, and make my own decision, and nothing will divert me from it after having done it. When I say 'yes,' it is yes—when I say 'no,' it is no, and not to be altered. This is what has made me so great to-day, and you must do the same, and you will also be great among your people. Now go, my son, and God bless you—mind you go to chapel, and listen to what the missionaries tell you, and become a Christian." On his Excellency leaving, he presented Krelis with a horse, saddle, and bridle, and also one of his own coats, and desired Mr. Shepstone to give him a full suit, remarking that he did not like to see his children naked; but that in future he (Krelis) was to purchase clothes. Krelis, on parting with the Governor, kissed his hand, and wished his father, the great chief, a peaceful journey.

On the Governor getting into his waggon, the whole of the chiefs, councillors, and people, shouted, "Farewell! Go in peace, great chief!"

On his arrival at Cape Town, Sir Harry found an address waiting for him, signed by Mr. Ebdon and other leading colonists, requesting to know his views respecting a representative government for the colony. He adverted to this subject, replying to an address of compliment in much the same terms as at Elizabeth Town; and on the 23rd he published the following official answer:—

Government House, Oct. 23, 1848.—Gentlemen,—I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 9th inst., and I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the report alluded to has been completed and transmitted to England, having for its base a form of government similar to that of Canada, and closely resembling that of England herself.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant (signed), H. SMITH.

The Hon. J. B. Ebdon, Esq., and the gentlemen whose signatures are attached to the letter of the 9th of October.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

ICARIA.—The *Times*, in a leading article, gives an account of M. Cabet's settlement of Icaria, in Texas. We extract the portion descriptive of the arrival of the second batch of settlers at the new colony: "There was nothing—not a house, not a cover; nothing but corpses. It was a field of desolation. The air and the water were deadly. Of the 70 who formed the advanced guard, nine were lying dead, and the rest were 'moribund.' The next morning they rebelled against the Janissary, assembled in convention, agreed to dissolve the society, and make the best of their way back again to France. Only three voices were raised against this resolution, but whether those three resolute men still linger in the wilds of Icaria, like the three Gorgons in Scythia, we are not told. The mass immediately commenced its retreat, which seems to have been a terrible affair. Many of their sick were left on the road, and what the survivors probably felt as much, the rear was obliged to abandon all its luggage in the midst of the prairies. As if in bitter contrast to the purple and fine linen promised by M. Cabet, it is mentioned that whole portmanteaus of shirts and cravats were left at the mercy of the Indians, who, we trust, will know how to wear them. Having made good their retreat to the *entrepôt* at Shreveport, and joined the ladies left in a cowshed, they had no alternative but to wait for assistance from France, being absolutely without means. At last five agents came with £1,000 of their money, though the fellows would not own to more than £200. They gave a pitiful £2 to each of the colonists—just enough to carry them to New Orleans, should they wish to return. One of the five agents made off with a great part of the money. The rest, with the colonists, formed a friendly society, subscribing for the relief of the sick and those out of work. Brute selfishness, however, had extinguished the Icarian sentiment, and such as were already disabled were excluded from the society, and left to live or die. The agents still refused to give any account of the funds, urging M. Cabet's first principle of 'blind confidence.' Some have found their way down to New Orleans, and describe in very grateful terms the kindness they are receiving in the excellent hospitals of that city. While the Icarian leaders, on the principles of fraternity, are refusing not merely assistance, but the satisfaction of a debt, the poor 'sheep,' as they call themselves, are housed and tended by strangers."

PAUPERISM IN VIENNA.—The correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"The number of beggars in Vienna is enormous, notwithstanding the severe police regulations respecting mendicants. Out of the 380,000 inhabitants of the capital, there is not less than 23,000 who have no visible means of existence, and 20,000 who are depending on casual employment. Moreover, there are 20,000 occupied on public works, which will be soon complete. There are 6,000 persons in prison on criminal charges, and during the current year not less than 10,000 were arrested as habitual drunkards. The prevailing misery is intense; so that, what with the embarrassed and disordered state of the finances, the demand for a new loan of eighty millions of florins, the war with Hungary, and the scarcity and dearness of provisions of all kinds, the prospects of the Austrian empire are bad enough. On the other hand, the property of the monasteries and convents, and other religious establishments, is valued at 200,000,000 florins, and it is said that the heads of those houses have been "invited" by government to advance the small "voluntary" loan of eighty millions."

RANSOM OF TWO CHRISTIAN FEMALES.—Last evening (Oct. 23rd) an immense meeting (say 2,500 people) was held in the Tabernacle, Broadway, to raise the means to rescue two Christian girls from slavery. These girls were among those that made the effort to escape in the "Pearl." After being retaken, they were sold for 1,500 dollars to slave-drivers, who certify to their good character and conduct, and say, "They are equal to any white girls;" and, "If there is a real Christian upon earth, he (Mr. Bruen, one of the firm of slave-dealers) believes Mary Edmondson to be one." Bruen and Hill, the traders, ask 2,250 dollars, or fifty per cent. profit on their purchase, and give the poor old father a letter, in which they state, that he "intends to appeal to the humane and good to aid him." As they avow their determination to sell these two helpless Christian girls, who would bring 2,250 dollars only because of their comeliness, intelligence, and piety, into the hands of cruel and licentious men, unless the father may be able to pay them their 750 dollars profit, of course they give up all claims, on their part, to humanity and goodness.

The Tabernacle holds about 2,500 people, and there were more persons present than could find seats. The spirit of the meeting was excellent, and over 1,600 dollars were raised towards the object. Notices of this meeting were read in most of the Congregational churches in New York and Brooklyn, with comments upon the abominations and wickedness of slavery. The Rev. Harry W. Beecher, of Brooklyn (son of Dr. Beecher, of Cincinnati), took a prominent part in the meeting. The same gentleman told his congregation, a few Sabbaths since, that it was not to be wondered at that the churches in Brooklyn were so cold and lifeless, when an elder of one of the leading Presbyterian churches held, and had held for a year past, a Methodist minister as a slave, whom he had taken for debt, and had not yet been able to dispose of. The statement has made some noise; but the fact is not an isolated one. I have seen a bill of sale into freedom of the Edmondson girls, price 2,250 dollars. Many slaves are just now getting off at a much cheaper rate. I saw last week, a man who brought off his whole family from Baltimore (nine persons), and on the road made up the party to seventeen. This man offers, if 100 dollars can be placed at his disposal to pay expenses, to bring off nineteen more, all of whom are his own brothers and sisters, his mother having had twenty-two children. Another party of forty, we are told, are about starting.—*Letters from W. E. Whiting, of New York, dated Oct. 24th and Nov. 14th, 1848.*

RAILWAY CALLS.—The sums called up on British and foreign shares during the first quarter of last year, amounted to £10,027,489, against £11,240,546 in 1847; during the second quarter, £7,906,375, against £11,847,539, in 1847; third quarter, £10,255,911, against £11,743,438, in 1848; during the fourth quarter £5,056,709, against £8,175,878, in 1847; making a total of £33,246,484, called during the year. The total amount called up in 1847 was £43,007,401, showing that the capital called up for the construction of railway works during the present year has fallen short of that of the previous year by £9,760,917.—*Herapath's Railway Journal.*

THE MURDER AT BRIDGENORTH was again the subject of investigation before the coroner on Friday. The suspicion that the deceased, Ann Newton, was murdered by her daughter, was strengthened by the evidence adduced. Richard Evans, the policeman, who apprehended the prisoner, said, I charged her with murdering her mother, and cautioned her not to say anything to me. In going up the High-street when I was taking her to the lockup, she said to me, "I suppose this will be another Severn-hall job." (The prisoner's brother was hung for the murder of his wife at Severn-hall). I said, "What do you mean by that?" and she said, "Passion, passion; I am very passionate, and as soon as my passion's over, I forgive directly." The coroner read the evidence of Messrs. Strange, Coley, Newall, and Martin, the surgeons, who all deposed to the cause of death, but their testimony has already been published in this journal, and therefore it is unnecessary to repeat it. The inquest was adjourned until the 28th of February, on which day the jury will deliver their verdict.

We are requested to state that there is no truth whatever in the account which recently appeared in our paper relative to the adventure of Mr. Beddard, of Brimfield, near Ludlow, and a highwayman dressed in female clothes. It is probably a revival of the old story which we heard some years ago.

MADemoiselle Jenny Lind and the Toxteth Hospital.—What a glorious creature is Jenny Lind! Though she can obtain thousands of pounds by the exercise of the splendid gifts with which nature and art have enriched her, she never refuses to make a generous bestowal of her services at the call of charity. Call after call is in this manner made upon her benevolence, yet each solicitation meets the wished-for response. Her labours, and their rich results, in London, Birmingham, and Manchester, are familiar to our readers; and now she has consented to appear at a concert in Liverpool, for the benefit of the fund for enlarging the Southern and Toxteth Hospital. The response will, without doubt, be munificent; and assuredly the people of Liverpool will not be behind any in their appreciation of a generosity which, in its abundant exercise, is without parallel. The concert will take place on Saturday, the 6th of January, at two o'clock, at the Royal Amphitheatre. It has been arranged that it shall be a day performance, in order to accommodate the many wealthy families who reside beyond our suburbs.—*Liverpool Albion.*

BOLTON ELECTION.—Mr. Thomas Ridgway Bridson has become the Conservative candidate on reform principles. He professes strict economy in public expenditure, and pledges himself to do away with all acknowledged abuses. By this, Mr. Ainsworth is completely thrown into the rear. Nothing has yet been done beyond the publication of the address.—*Manchester Examiner.*

ENFRANCHISEMENT OF KENSINGTON AND SURROUNDING DISTRICTS.—On Friday a meeting of the ratepayers of Kensington was held in the Vestry-room, for the purpose of receiving a report of the proceedings of the committee appointed on the 8th August, to consider the best mode of effecting the incorporation of Kensington, Chelsea, Fulham, Hammersmith, and Chiswick, as one of the metropolitan boroughs. Captain Hood, as chairman, stated what had been done by the committee, and read a petition that had been prepared on the subject. It set forth that the area of these parishes contained 8,540 acres, and was rated at £484,212. The population was 110,000, and the number of

houses rated at £10 and upwards was 18,345. It prayed the Legislature to take these strong facts into consideration, and to allow the districts to return to Parliament two members, in place of those of which Sudbury had been deprived. On the motion of Mr. Dunford, seconded by Mr. Henson, the petition was adopted, and it was agreed to take immediate steps to procure signatures to it.

A VENERABLE CHRISTMAS PARTY.—On Christmas day, a number of aged men, resident in the village of Walmsley, near Bury, assembled to dine together at the house of Mr. Ratcliffe, the New Inn, Walmsley, the united ages of whom, thirty-two in number, amounted to 2,230 years, making the average age of each guest 69½ years! The feast, a substantial one of roast beef and plum pudding, was provided according to the will of the late W. Grant, Esq., who at his decease bequeathed funds for the purpose. On the morning of the same day, upwards of 500 of the Sunday-school children belonging to the new church at Walmsley, were regaled with huns and coffee, out of a fund left by the same benevolent gentleman, on which occasion an excellent address was delivered to them by their pastor, the Rev. Arthur Hulton.—*Manchester Courier.*

THE ASSASSINATIONS IN NORFOLK.—Mrs. Jermy and her maid, Eliza Chestney, have been pronounced by their medical attendants to be beyond danger. Potash Farm continues in the care of the police, and the search for the pistols or guns of the assassin proceeds with great vigour. Not the least trace of the weapons has at present been obtained. Gangs of labourers are daily engaged in making a systematic search of all the neighbouring preserves and plantations; every hollow tree and stump is undergoing a careful examination, and, in order that the search may be complete, the soil in the track leading from Stanfield-hall to the farm, is in course of being turned up.

RECOVERED LAKE.—SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—A singular accident occurred on the Michigan Central Railway. It became necessary to carry a grading or embankment of 15 feet high across a low piece of ground, containing about 100 acres, nearly dry enough for plough land. When they had progressed with the grading for some distance, it became too heavy for the soil to support, the crust of the earth broke in, and the embankment sunk down into 79 feet of water! It appears that the piece of ground had been a lake, but had collected a soil of roots, peat, muck, &c., on its surface, apparently from 10 to 15 feet thick, which had become hardened and dry enough for farm purposes. Mr. Brooks, the engineer, thought it would have supported an embankment of 5 feet thickness, and that if it had not been necessary for them to have one much heavier, it would have supported the road, and the fact might never have been discovered that it rested on the bosom of a lake.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, January 3, Two o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The Paris papers of Monday state, that though there is nothing positive known with respect to any further changes in the Cabinet, yet the impression seems to be general, that the Ministry is in a very tottering state, and that, before many days elapse, a partial, if not a total, change will take place.—The *Times'* correspondent says:—"The aspect of Paris in this first day of the new year would not lead one to suppose that it had been so lately the theatre of civil discord, or that political excitement still swayed its vast population. Crowds of peaceful citizens of both sexes, and of all ages, fill the streets and thoroughfares, and the shops, where the temptations that are usual at this busy season are displayed before their eyes. It is satisfactory to add, that a good deal of business appeared to be doing in the shops, and the trade in bonbons, toys, and articles of cheap jewellery was very brisk. The President had a grand reception on New Year's day. The visitors, instead of passing as usual before the President, were drawn up in two ranks with an intervening space between, along which the President, attended by the Minister of the Interior, his aides-de-camp, and suite passed. There was no individual presentation, nor any interchange of words between the President and his visitors.—The Archbishop of Paris has issued a circular to his clergy, directing a collection to be made at the churches for the Pope. Yesterday the funds had considerably improved.

ROMAN STATES.—By advices of the 23rd and 24th ult. we learn that Mamiani is ill, arising, it is said, from the fatigue and anxieties of his position. The new Roman Ministry is composed as follows:—Mazzarelli, President, Minister of Public Instruction and (ad interim) Foreign Affairs; Armellini, Interior; Galletti, Justice; Mamiani, Finances; Sterbini, Commerce and Public Works; Cambello, War. It is announced that the Supreme Junta has prepared a note to the Ministry, soliciting the prompt convocation of the Constituent, and that the Ministry will immediately present to the Chambers a project of law on this subject.

NAPLES.—The Calabrian provinces are again in a state of disturbance, and the movement there was so serious, that Marshal Statella was sent in person to suppress it.

THE WAR IN HUNGARY.—The position of the Austrian corps d'armée was not materially altered. Count Zichy had been appointed commissioner of the districts of Presburg and Wieselburg. Raab was expected to surrender very shortly, the inhabitants being disposed for peace, and much terrified,

moreover, by the menaced bombardment of the town. The accounts from Lower Hungary of the 21st and 22nd ult. confirm the accounts of the successes at Werchets, Carlowitz, and Esseg; but the intelligence from the south is less unfavourable to the Magyar cause. The Hungarians were fighting desperately in that district, and had penetrated to Neudorf.

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—"Judas Maccabeus" was performed for the first time this season, by this society, on Friday last, at Exeter-hall, which was well filled. Mr. Phillips, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Benson, Miss Birch, the Misses Williams, and Miss Stewart, were the principal singers. Some of the solos were given by Mr. Reeves with magnificent effect, and the whole performance went off admirably. We understand that this popular oratorio is to be repeated by the same society on the 8th inst.

THE LATE WEST RIDING ELECTION.—At the monthly meeting of the members of the British Anti-state-church Association, held in the city of York, on Wednesday evening last—Mr. Watkinson in the chair—after an interesting lecture by Mr. Howarth, on the rise, progress, and prospects of the Association, it was unanimously resolved:—

That the members of the British Anti-state-church Association resident in York, having watched with considerable interest the recent contest in the West Riding of this county, have read with much surprise the following sentiments in the Not address of Sir Culling E. Eardley to the electors:—"I have repeatedly stated my belief that public opinion is not ripe for a separation, an event which can never be consummated so long as the Establishment retains its hold on the affections of the people;" and that this meeting, confidently believing that the Established Church finds no sympathy among the masses of the people, and that the immediate separation of the Church from the State would be hailed as a great national boon, desires that this expression of its opinion shall be conveyed to Sir Culling E. Eardley.

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY ON THE GREAT-WESTERN RAILWAY.—A series of robberies of the most extraordinary and extensive character were perpetrated on the up and down mails traversing the Great-Western Railway during the night of Monday last. In the absence of any official information on the subject, the following particulars in reference to the depredations, have been obtained from the most authentic sources, will be read with interest. The up mail leaving Plymouth at 6 35 p.m., and Exeter at 9 p.m., on Monday, arrived at Bridgewater at its usual hour, half-past 10 o'clock. At this station various bags of letters which had accumulated in the Post-office van during the trip, were, in accordance with the usual custom of the guard, placed in a tender immediately at the rear of the post-office, and securely locked up. On the arrival of the train at Bristol shortly before midnight, the guard went to the tender in the rear of the post-office in order to deliver the Bristol bags, when, to his astonishment and dismay, he discovered that all the bags had been more or less tampered with, some being cut open, and others left with the seals broken and strings untied. A very cursory examination of their contents satisfied him that all the money or registered letters, as well as the bankers' parcels, had been abstracted, and without a moment's loss of time he communicated first with the two travelling post-office clerks accompanying the mail, and subsequently with the post-office authorities at Bristol. The metropolitan bags were at once despatched on to London. As a precautionary measure, information was forwarded by the post-office authorities to the various city banking-houses, so that a check might be put upon the disposal of the contents of the stolen letters. At the same time active measures were taken in order to discover a clue to the depredators, and in the course of the morning, Mr. S. Clarke, superintendent of the Great Western Railway Company, with two or three officials of the Post-office, left Paddington for Bristol in order to investigate the affair. Later in the afternoon, and while Col. Maberly was engaged with several of his officers in matters connected with the unfortunate affair, information reached town of a second robbery, precisely similar in character, perpetrated on the down mail which left London at 8.55 p.m. on the same evening. In this case the bags deposited in the tender were perfectly safe on the arrival of the train at Bristol at a quarter past one o'clock a.m. On the tender being opened at Bridgewater, a scene similar to that previously observed at Bristol presented itself—all the bags were more or less mutilated and disturbed, and the more valuable contents abstracted therefrom. Happily, in this instance, the vigilance of the parties in charge of the train resulted in the capture of the supposed thieves, and all circumstances considered, there seems great reason to hope that the scoundrels who effected the first robbery were also the perpetrators of the second.

MR. DUFFY'S TRIAL has been proceeding during the past week before the Commission Court, Dublin. The judgment on the demurrer put in on his behalf would, it was expected, be pronounced yesterday. It is still believed that in the event of the point being ruled in favour of the Crown, the Attorney-General means to insist upon his right to call for summary sentence upon the prisoner, and thus cut short all further proceedings in this the last and most tedious of the whole batch of "State prosecutions."

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, Jan. 3.

The wind being favourable, we have a further large supply of all kinds of grain. Our buyers are extremely reserved, and little business is doing, so that prices may be considered almost nominal.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat, 1,880 qrs. English; 39,910 qrs. Foreign. Barley, 4,810 qrs. English; 37,990 qrs. Foreign. Oats, 6,460 qrs. English; 50 qrs. Irish; 27,440 qrs. Foreign. Flour, 2,830 sacks.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION are 26s. per annum; 13s. for the half-year; and 6s. 6d. per quarter.

Subscriptions (payable in advance) are received at the Office, 4, Horse Shoe-court, Ludgate-hill.

Post-office Orders, &c., payable to Messrs. Miall and Cockshaw.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. T.," Richmond. Nearly 3,000.

"A. B. C." The population of Market Harborough, by the last census, was 2,433; of Marlborough, 4,139.

"One of the Middle Classes." We must decline the article as somewhat hastily executed, and as involving a mistake of Mr. Cobden's purpose. It shall be put by for him, as desired.

"John Hamilton." Next week—but not without a footnote of our own.

"Philo" plays upon an expression—nothing more.

"A Temperance Advocate." We cannot allow any diversion of the discussion to incidental topics.

"A Dissenter." They do not.

"J. S., jun." We perfectly agree with him in opinion—we have again and again expressed as much—but we must reserve to ourselves the liberty of judging how far our object would be promoted by taking the course he recommends.

"R. W." We have carefully looked over the MSS. We do not find one with his signature, nor do we remember seeing it at any time.

"Patriot" next week.

In order not to disappoint the numerous applicants for our last number, an extra edition of which was speedily exhausted, the review of Mr. Noel's "Essay on the Church and State" has, with the kind permission of the author and publishers, been thrown into the form of a tract, and may be had of Miall and Cockshaw for 1d. each, or 7s. per 100.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3, 1849.

SUMMARY.

THE New Year!—but stay—we have apostrophized, and speculated, and improved upon the subject, in another place. We will not weary our friends with variations of the same theme. One thought only peeps timidly upon us—the New Year may perchance introduce us to some new readers—indeed, it is not unlikely. We beg, therefore, to make our bow to such, and ask them to deal with us as we wish to do with them—faithfully and confidently. We will not trot ourselves out in an introductory paragraph to show our paces—nor speak of what we have done, nor of what we shall do. We dislike clap-trap. But if our new acquaintances will keep company with us for a reasonable period, we will hope to make them friends—and if they will vouchsafe us a fair hearing, we believe we may, in all honesty of conscience, venture to predict for them, that they will lose nothing of their love for truth, and will experience no enervation of their manliness of character, while readers of the *Nonconformist*.

The year opens quietly enough. At home, all is still. Commercial prospects are brightening—trade is improving—even the revenue, we hear, is going somewhat ahead. This will not, however, prevent financial reform from taking the lead during next session. It seems to be, just now, the chief question stirring—barring ecclesiastical topics. Amateur budgets threaten to become as "plentiful as blackberries." In addition to Mr. Cobden's, which we noticed last week, we have now before us Mr. McGregor's—framed on a much more cautious plan, and proposing a reduction of about five millions sterling annually. There is a much greater parade of detail in the statement of the member for Glasgow—but he has not shown why we should prefer his estimate of what is required for our army, navy, and ordnance, to that of the member for the West Riding—nor has he given a good reason for leaving real estate exempt from the legacy and probate duties charged upon personal. Indeed, the tone of criticism bestowed upon it by the *Times*, suggests that, however intended by the writer, it is welcomed by those interested in our wasteful expenditure as a seasonable diversion. In Edinburgh, a public meeting has been held, and a Financial Reform Association formed, of the general character and power of which the *Scotsman*, we observe, speaks in laudatory tones. The Whigs, too, we believe, are preparing measures of retrenchment—we thought the baiting of last session would prove a salutary warning to them.

In most of the provincial journals we have recently opened we have records of meetings held in several of the principal towns throughout the country, to advocate the substitution of arbitration in the settlement of national disputes for an appeal to the sword. Our columns this week contain a brief enumeration of the places recently visited by the active deputation from the committee of the Peace Congress. We believe that wherever they

have been they have met with a cordial welcome. We shall rejoice to learn that the address of the committee to the friends of peace throughout the country has been responded to in a becoming and effective manner. The work is a great one—but once let the people of England be convinced of the soundness and safety of the principle, and we are not far off the pacification of Europe. The question is intimately bound up with that of retrenchment, and the conduct of both is appropriately confided to Mr. Cobden's hands. Let petitions to Parliament in favour of arbitration treaties be prepared and forwarded by the opening of the new session, and members well plied with memorials from their constituents—and above all let the friends of peace resolve that the proposed special fund of £5,000, proposed by Elihu Burritt and his coadjutors, shall be raised without delay. We observe with pleasure that the Congregational Board of Ministers in London have passed a resolution in favour of arbitration, and trust that the example will not be lost upon ministers of the gospel of all denominations throughout the country. There is every ground for hope of success if the public feeling is roused upon this question. France, nearly crushed beneath the weight of its military establishments, is about to make a decided effort at reduction. It is her only means of escape from financial ruin, and the extent of the reformation probably depends more upon the example and state of feeling in this country than upon any other cause.

From the depths of her degradation and misery, poor Ireland is beginning to look up once again. Some home attempts, conducted on sound economical principles, to improve the Courtown, Belmullet, and Killybegs fisheries—and the opening of a coal-mine in Antrim, and the projected erection of iron-works in its vicinity, may be taken, we fondly hope, as prelibations of future prosperity. Let but Irishmen be hopelessly cast upon themselves, upon individual energy, enterprise, and perseverance, and they will do well enough. The great difficulty is to associate their hopes with steady toil, instead of clamorous begging.

The Essay of the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, on the Union of Church and State, was out of print, we understand, on the day of its publication. From the notice taken of it by the provincial press, as well as from its rapid sale, we judge that it is awakening intense interest. It cannot, consequently, fail of doing good. Even the *Church and State Gazette*—a paper which occasionally honours us with the foulest abuse, and which appears to imagine that any lying misrepresentation of our views is quite justifiable, considering our position as advocates of Nonconformity—gives a full analysis, with ample quotations from the work. We who are interested in the principles set forth by Mr. Noel, can be well content to see them go forth in the columns of our contemporary, even when garnished with his spiteful twaddle. Not all the *Gazettes* which the zeal of the Establishment can support will be able to stay the onward march of the great truth to which we delight to do homage—and for ourselves, we can only say, that if our contemporary derives pleasure from pelting us with filthy invectives, he is very welcome to the sport. Our character, happily, is beyond the reach of his malice.

At present the Government machine does not move with much freedom in France. The President has already been at issue with two of his ministers, and the National Assembly with both. Everybody gives M. Thiers the credit of pulling the wires behind the scene, and of fomenting the differences he pretends to regret. In fact, intrigue is as busy as ever, and during the past week Odilon Barrot's Cabinet has been in danger of falling to pieces. The financial difficulties of the Republic are accumulating, and will prove a sad trial to any party who may be in power. The whole system requires alteration. The revolution of February altered the form of government, but did not change or curtail its cumbrous machinery. Whether, therefore, M. Barrot or M. Thiers be in power—whether Louis Napoleon remain President, or assume the title of Emperor, France can no longer be governed by corruption. A large reduction of its civil and military establishments is inevitable, and its financial troubles may eventually prove to be blessings in disguise, by stripping the Government of some of its enormous patronage, and fostering a spirit of greater self-reliance in the people. No wonder that the historian of the first revolution hesitates, at this crisis, to come forward boldly, and announce himself as "the coming man"—especially with such a watchful Legislature as the present National Assembly to control his actions and policy.

The new year opens doubtfully upon Germany, and already our Tory journalists profess to regard the events of the last nine months as having borne no fruits. This view is fallacious, even so far as practical measures are concerned. A mass of feudal monopolies and burdens has been removed both in Prussia and Austria. The peasantry have been set free from a grinding despotism which reaction has not re-imposed. Martial law is still in the

ascendant in Berlin and Vienna, but it is an exceptional state. Both countries are in the possession of liberal constitutions, which are a prodigious advance upon the old system of things. The Frankfort Parliament still exists, and if its decisions are not much respected by such men as the Kings of Bavaria and Hanover, it yet retains the confidence of the German people. We believe that the work it has so gloriously commenced will not be left undone or incomplete. The patriotism and intelligence of the majority of its members, with a man of indomitable resolution, such as Gagern, at their head, are sufficient guarantees to us that their object will not be abandoned in consequence of temporary obstacles. "Germany," says the Frankfort correspondent of the *Daily News*, and we believe he speaks truly, "is, indeed, dangerously ill, but she is not quite dead. Montesquieu somewhere remarks that Germany has never been nearer a victory than when she appeared on the eve of being annihilated. History records various incidents corroborative of this opinion, and we believe that those who reckon on the death of poor Germany will find the same thing happen again."

The state of affairs in other parts of Europe does not require any lengthened notice. Hungary, with the weather in its favour, is maintaining a desperate resistance to the Austrian army, which, if not eventually successful, will no doubt be protracted and sanguinary. A Constituent Assembly is as yet unrealized by the Italian nation. Roman statesmen dread it as cutting short all compromise with the Pope—the populace urge it with increasing vehemence and power. Meanwhile the treacherous King of Naples is concentrating all his military force, with the object of re-instating his Holiness in the Quirinal, or perhaps of reconquering Sicily, or, it may be, of both combined. Charles Albert would seem to be meditating some ambitious scheme—perhaps of putting himself at the head of the popular movement. Never was Italy in a more chaotic state; never did she so urgently require a steady and directing power to guide her aright. The Court of Spain continues to be the centre of domestic squabbles, which probably call for the intervention of the Pope, who has been specially invited to Madrid, to patch up.

THE NEW YEAR.

A WELCOME to the new year—the new-born child of Time—the young stranger whom all are curious to gaze upon, towards whom all feel the affectionate interest of close kinship, and whose fortune and destiny all would try to foresee! Hail, infant, with character undiscerned, as yet, even by the most sagacious conjectures! Sensible, as we are, how likely it is that all our guesses will prove beside the mark, how natural, nevertheless, that we should pry into thy young features, and attempt to read in them thy destiny, so closely interwoven with our own! How natural that we should busy our minds with fruitless speculation on what thou wilt grow up to be, and in what way the condition of humanity will be affected by the events which thy short existence will evolve! What promises dost thou bring with thee—what warnings? Dost thou herald days of peace—or of commotion? Is thy history to be associated with new creations, or with fresh destructions? Is judgment, or mercy, or both, the burden of thy message to us? As yet thou art dumb, and, by degrees only, wilt thou unfold what all men have more or less anxiety to learn by anticipation. Vain, therefore, all our inquiries. In vigilant silence we must wait—wait, however, not without the consoling assurance that the history of 1849, scarcely yet commenced, is under the wise and kind direction, equally as that of former years, of One who sees "the end from the beginning," and whose purposes are those of unspeakable love.

We enter upon another year under circumstances of special interest. The foundations of systems, blanched with age, have been upheaved. The continent of Europe has been shaken by a political earthquake. Nothing remains precisely where it was. In some cases geographical distinctions have been well-nigh obliterated; in others the well-worn lines of ancient prescriptions have been destroyed; in all the relation of the governing power to the governed, has been disturbed and modified. We know not, at the present moment, whether the volcanic force which has shaken all nations has yet spent itself—whether other and severer shocks may not be felt—or whether the commotions of 1848 may not prove but the mere prelude of the still more marvellous vicissitudes of 1849. This alone we know, that nowhere are we permitted to look upon settled results. The new order of things is far from having been developed. The fruits of revolution have yet to be gathered. Under any circumstances, therefore, the year upon which we have just entered can hardly fail of being an eventful one. We shall probably see many novelties, and experience the uneasiness resulting from the struggle of contending classes and opposite principles. We are "not yet out of the wood." We have not yet entered upon a millennium of quietude. We have not passed through the region



of alarms. Great problems yet remain to be solved. Thoughts of extensive bearing and of world-wide import have to embody themselves in fact. Close, matted, impervious jungles of prejudice have to be cleared away with rough energy, and selfish interests of all sorts to be levelled and removed. It is pretty evident, therefore, that days of listlessness or repose do not yet await us. The great process of reformation has but just set in. The tide has only recently turned. A busy and a changeable time is most likely in store for us.

Let us not, however, mistake the character of the age upon which our lot is cast. There is nothing miraculous in it—no deviation from the ordinary laws of Providence. It is singular only in the character of its outward manifestations. The outbursts upon which we have looked and marvelled, so numerous and so simultaneous, are not the sudden starting into existence of new forces, but simply the appearance of them to our view and apprehension. They have been long at work, although men heeded them not. The ferment was going on long before the result of it appeared upon the surface. Every act of tyranny, every injustice of law, every new application of science to the wants of life, all the babblings of error, all the teachings of truth, have been storing up in the mind of nations, the materials of thought, and feeling, and determination which have at length shaped themselves into huge revolutionary forms, "perplexing monarchs," oversetting thrones, letting loose popular passions, and casting over the broad surface of society shadows of gloomy foreboding. We have no need to marvel as though great Providential laws had ceased to operate. In truth, they are but beginning to make themselves visible. Oppression is reaping its appropriate reward—impatience of restraint overtaking its own punishment. One great moral experiment is being solved—man as an individual is pushing his way to the most forward position, compatible with the preservation of mankind as a family. The seeds of change involved in this momentous process have shot up above the soil, and what was before concealed from close observers, is now manifest to every eye. Hence, the future, although not more changeable than the past, will, in all probability, be much more visibly so. National aspirations and purposes, quickening, heretofore, beneath ground, and out of sight, will ripen and bear fruit above ground, and in view of every eye. It is our destiny to see the palpable issue of the intellectual and moral forces which have been secretly operating upon many successive generations.

Common prudence forewarns us to await the revelations of 1849 with that calmness and presence of mind which will best fit us for the performance of duty. It is true, in a much wider than the theological sense, that "he that believeth shall not make haste." The events of last year, coming upon all of us unawares, scared no inconsiderable number from principles previously held by them to be just as well as expedient. In the whirlwind of national disturbances, they let go their hold of truth, and were flurried. Similar trials of our confidence, in all likelihood, await us—similar temptations to quit an advanced post of conviction for a seemingly safer one of temporary convenience. "Forewarned is forearmed." What has been gained by this moral pusillanimity? or rather, what opportunities have not been lost? The middle classes, if they would turn to account the facilities put within their reach, must learn to venture abroad in foul weather as well as in sunshine. It is precisely when all other things are drifted down the strong current of popular feeling, that we should cling most convulsively to our principles. Had all the friends of truth been firm in February, March, and April last—had they appeared at their posts—had they marched into the breach which continental revolutions had made in the strong wall of political exclusiveness, the result might have been otherwise than it is. We are not sure that "plotter" against the public peace would have abstained from their congenial work—but we are convinced that their miserable insignificance, in number and in resources, would have been more immediately apparent.

Whatever obscurity may veil from us future events, our duties, happily, are sufficiently clear. Things that are just, honest, lovely, and of good report, are to be to us matters of careful thought, and steady pursuit. Upon as extensive a portion of the public mind as our influence, direct and indirect, can reach, we have to set the impress of the truths committed to us—to sow early and late "beside all waters." To us it belongs to determine the character of the years to come—to set agoing, in a right direction, moral processes which, after long working in secret, will take form in actual events. Our mission is one of high dignity, and vast responsibility. We have it in charge to fashion the future. The thoughts we awaken now, the impulses we stir, the convictions we succeed in producing, the misapprehensions we rectify, the hopes we enkindle, the fears we excite, the influences we bring to bear, voluntarily or involuntarily, upon surrounding minds, are con-

tributing to shape the character of the age about to follow. And we know not whether we shall do good or mischief, save as we resolutely adhere to sound principles—faithful to them in all their demands—confident in them through all passing changes—watchful to promote them as occasion offers—prepared to suffer for them if Providence should so appoint. To be, and to do, all this as becomes us, we must be and do daily what the day demands—and so spread our work equally over the entire year. Splendid opportunities rarely occur, and when they do, we are seldom in trim for them. The greatest works of man are those which comprise the sum total of innumerable acts, all seemingly trivial, but all fashioned by one purpose, and performed at the fitting moment. Every right-minded individual may live, if he will, a life of heroism—and whether the future shall be one of gloom or of radiance, depends very much upon the determination of his own will. Light cannot be sown without yielding its harvest.

BROTHER JONATHAN'S SPLENDID WINDFALL.

MANY a man has been ruined by hearing of "something to his advantage." Many a nation has come to beggary by finding a short cut to wealth. It may sound paradoxical—it may seem contrary to all present appearances—but we verily believe that Ireland will do more to render Great Britain prosperous, than will California the United States of America.

Our readers need not be told that California has turned out to be a modern "El Dorado"—an immense field of gold—a broad strip of soil in which the "precious metal" is found in such purity and abundance, that large fortunes are being made in a mere twinkle of one's life-time. Of course, there is a rush from all parts of the Union to this far-off region—merchants, lawyers, storekeepers, shipowners, men of all professions, trades, and conditions, in haste to be rich, hurry away to the distant workshop of Mammon. Supposing the accounts which have reached us to have been strongly overcoloured, and deducting an immense breadth of margin as pure imagination, there cannot be a doubt that Yankeedom has come in for a magnificent windfall. And yet, so far from envying, we pity her.

Ireland has been looked upon as England's curse—Ireland, unquestionably is, at the present moment, England's scourge. But the punishment which the condition of Ireland metes out to us for our past injustice and neglect, is corrective. The burden grows heavier year by year, and will do so until it shall become intolerable. Then, and perhaps not till then, the land will be given up by bankrupt nobles and squires, as a field for industry and enterprise. Our California is within reach of us. The soil, the estuaries, the rivers, the mountains, the sea-coasts, the very bogs of Ireland, abound in, not money, but money's worth. It may become to us a more splendid acquisition than all the mines of gold which the New world can furnish. But, happily, it can only become this to us, as the result of a complete surrender of pretensions founded on injustice, a hearty recognition of the rights and dignity of labour, a cultivation of mutual good-will as the true practical admonition of mutual dependence, a setting of all hands to work, and a giving to all hands the due reward of work, a development and exercise of all the laws of well-doing which guarantee the ultimate realization of national well-being. In a word, Ireland is to us what the field was to the sons of the man in the fable, who dying, told them that buried beneath the surface lay an immense treasure—it will not return us gold, but it will repay us in produce, whenever we set to in earnest, to develop its resources. If it is a curse, it is a curse which we shall one day turn into a blessing.

California, regarded by the United States as a blessing, is too likely to prove a curse. It will probably avenge the Mexicans for the iniquity of the recent war. It has already created a fever in the minds of the citizens, the whole course of which has yet to be run. Imagine the desolation which must ensue from any dissociation, in the minds of people generally, of wealth from patient toil! Imagine what will be the moral fate of a nation which believes itself to be possessed of a veritable wishing-cap! How all the laws of social life will be turned topsy-turvy! What dissipation, not merely of morals, but of industrial strength! What burning excitement! What cruel disappointments! What scowling impatience! What corroding discontent! Who will care to work and plod when fortunes may be picked up in a month? Who will not conceive a distaste for reality, when the very atmosphere is full charged with the spirit of romance? It will be well if the States are preserved from becoming one vast arena of gambling—if, making haste to be rich, they do not pierce themselves through with many sorrows. The present condition of Spain holds up to America a terrible warning.

What influence the discovery of gold in California will have upon European destiny, it is hard to determine—perhaps, impossible. If it should pour into the market an unexampled flood of gold,

it will give incalculable activity to all our industrial machinery, and, perhaps, will go far to overturn our monetary monopoly. Any considerable addition to the world's amount of circulating medium, being not merely representative of value, but value itself, must prove indirectly advantageous to us—by opening a much wider demand for our manufactures, and giving increased employment to our operatives. But all such speculation may be safely deferred for the present. The chickens are not yet hatched—so it would be wiser not to count them in the egg. Much more becoming prudent men would be our conduct if, instead of hankering after the gold of California, we were to insist upon unlocking the treasures of Ireland. Feudalism keeps the key—and feudalism, giant as it is, must surrender at discretion, or be destroyed. English enterprise would then be as busy in the Emerald Isle, as American cupidity is in California—and industry employed by capital, and directed by skill, would turn into a dowry what it now feels to be a drain—would make the desert blossom as the rose.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN FRANCE.

(From a Paris Correspondent.)

In my last week's letter I noticed some of the leading reasons that seemed calculated to induce the new President to keep strictly within the bounds of the Constitution, and which were equally urgent with the French for maintaining the Republican form of government as the only one adapted to the state of things in France. In that cursory *aperçus* I did not advert to an absolute form of government, already tried for several years, and which, in spite of the genius of its head and the *prestige* of his victories, fell to the ground like the rest. "I defy," said Benjamin Constant, "the absolute power of one to exist for ten years in any enlightened country: Bona parte himself was unable entirely either to acquire it or make it last; and I equally defy the aristocracy to prolong its existence for another half century."

What I threw forward in my last, on the democratical state of manners and the sentiment of equality that prevail in France, may not be thoroughly appreciated in England, where an aristocratic feeling animates all classes, as well as all orders of politicians; and as this disparity betwixt the two countries appears to be strikingly brought out by Mr. Elias Regnault, in a work published here a few years ago, I shall now extract a passage from it:—

"Is it not therefore an act of bitter derision or profound ignorance to invoke in politics the example of England? The traveller indeed can pass through the country without being delayed by the formalities of a passport; but he cannot make a step without being subjected to the minute formalities of a society entirely saturated with the spirit of aristocracy: aristocracy pursues him in every act of his life, in every detail of his existence. Let a noble take a pride in his traditions, or a rich man plume himself on his wealth, in France, we let him enjoy his conceit, and pay no attention to him: in England the public justifies him by associating itself to his worship, and the lowly sanction by their homage the pride of the great. Thus, what essentially constitutes aristocratic manners, is not so much the existence of a certain privileged class, as the acquiescence of the masses in the pretensions of the other. Aristocracy is made up of the master who commands, and of the valet that obeys: it is a divinity that has no isolated existence, and which only lives by the breath of its worshippers. What matters it to us that the Faubourg St. Germain believes in its superiority, provided it remain single in that belief? In England, the superiority of the nobility is corroborated by the inferior orders who accept it,—the servility of the one serving as a complement to the vanity of the other. Thus organized, the aristocracy forms a vast net, which embraces and imprisons all the inhabitants of the British islands, of whatever class, rank, or opinion they may be. Aristocracy is in the heart of the merchant, as in that of the lord—of the operative, as of the gentleman,—of the beggar, as of the proprietor; it lolls in a chariot, and trudges in rags—it vaunts itself in Parliament, and gets drunk in the alehouse—it flaunts in the lofty regions of power, and flounders in the dirt of the kennels."

"To sum up all,—the political situation of England is this—an aristocracy of position in the higher classes; an aristocracy of imitation in the middle ranks; an aristocracy of servility in the inferior orders. The Tories despise democracy, the Whigs fear it, the Radicals coquet with it, and the people at large do not understand it. Whence, then, can come the knowledge which must enlighten the English people? What the English especially stand most in need of are, the moral support and the practical lessons of a country thoroughly democratical like France."

The foregoing are the views of one who knows England well, and has written a great deal on the subject of it; but his countrymen, in general, judging of the state of things there by what exists among themselves, have often talked to me of the imminence of a revolution and the establishment of a republic among us; and I have hardly ever been able to convince them that England was further from such changes than any country in Europe, not even excepting Russia. In England, have I represented to them, everything that is established, traditional and ancient, is venerated; old families, old castles, old laws and usages, however absurd, are there the objects of pride, respect, and affection;—when the ballot, for example, was pressed upon them, with all the eloquence and genius of a Grote, it was rejected chiefly on the ground of its being un-English! Verily, "the

English," as I see remarked in a paper in "Chambers' Journal," "are the most Conservative people in Europe." Milton, a thorough going Republican, in his description of Sin, in order to cast a slur on Royalty, represents it as wearing a crown—"The semblance of a kingly crown it wore." A satirical friend, in alluding to the lines where these words appear, once remarked to me, "that were this allegorical personage to show itself amongst us bedizened with a crown, or even a coronet, the people would prostrate themselves before it out of respect for its frontal ornament." Till the English shall cure themselves of this idolatrous feeling towards titled grandeur, and come to regard their aristocracy as an onerous superfluous and a galling burden, I can have little hope of their effecting any reform worth speaking of in their political and economical condition. No doubt Finance Committees have been lately organized for showing up the lavish expenditure of our aristocratical government; but the *origo mali*—the aristocracy and the feudal laws of succession that give it life and support, are scarcely ever attacked, or if they be, in the most gentle terms. All the extravagance denounced is merely the fruit of the tree; and yet the tree itself, like the banian of Hindostan, is an object of veneration! Is it then believed that grapes can be gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles—or that the rivulets that flow from a troubled and polluted source can be pure and salubrious?

Bulwer has somewhere said, that when a man first presents himself in society in England, the question is, "What is he?" in France, "What has he done?" The difference between the two people may be traced even in the names given to their streets and public places. Take Edinburgh as a case in point, with its George-streets, Queen-streets, Prince's-streets, Regent's-terraces, Athol-crescents, Moray-places, &c., all smelling rank of kingship and lordship. Take Paris with its Quai de Voltaire, Rues—J. J. Rousseau, Moliere, Montesquieu, Montaigne, Laharpe, &c. In England, the newspapers record minutely the acts and movements, the outgoings and incomings, of the aristocracy: the French journalists fill their columns with no such rubbish. Some one, whose name at present escapes me, is now publishing with you the "Romance of the Peerage," a work whose very title would disgust the French, or only excite their ridicule. In France, during the last thirty years, all the most eminent statesmen have been chosen from the class of professors, journalists, and publicists, such as Guizot, Thiers, Duchatel, Royer Collard, Passy, Cousin, Villmain, and a host of others. In England, within the same period, Canning is the only example of a similar selection, and he was worried to death by the aristocracy, who viewed him as an interloper.

In France, where since 1789 no aristocracy has existed to suborn or overawe public writers, the science of government has been discussed in a freer and more liberal spirit than in England—a fact noticed by M. Guizot in his "History of Civilization in Europe." Tocqueville, in his admirable work on "Democracy in the United States," has examined the question of self-government in the most enlightened manner, and has shown that the countries of Europe, in their progressive changes and developments, were all tending towards governments virtually republican. I could have wished to have cited the eloquent and poetic vision of Lamennais, in his "Words of a Believer;" but as it is long, I reserve it for another occasion. Even Chateaubriand, a Legitimist to the day of his death, comes to the same conclusion as the radical Tocqueville, although in a different way, and by assuming that the hereditary principle having been destroyed in the oldest of European monarchies by the dethronement and death of Louis XVI., monarchy in Europe was no longer tenable. In his "Essay on English Literature" he thus expresses himself:—

"There was only one monarchy in Europe, that of France; all the others were only its daughters, and they will pass away with their parent. Kings had, up to the revolution, lived, without being aware of it, behind that monarchy of a thousand years, and under the shelter of a race incorporated, so to speak, with centuries. When the breath of the revolution had overturned this race, Buonaparte arose to support these princes, tottering on their thrones, which he had successively thrown down and set up. Monarchs now live crouching in the ruins of the Napoleon Coliseum, like the hermits who beg for alms in the Coliseum of Rome; but these ruins, even, will soon cease to shelter them.

"Legitimacy would have been able to conduct the world for more than a century to its transformation, and would have effected the change insensibly, and without shocks or catastrophes. More than a century was still necessary to enable it to finish its paternal education, and to prepare the people for freedom. Against faults far from irremediable, arose in arms the passions of the people, who did not see that all could yet be put to rights, and that the world might be indebted to Legitimacy for an immense and final advantage. Instead of being by it borne downwards on an easy and gentle declivity, we are now obliged to plod our way over roads covered with mud, and cut up into deep ruts. Of what consequence was a halt of some months, or of some years, to a nation launched by chance in a space without directing landmarks? What mind, of any clearness of perception, could mistake those intervals of repose for a final sojourn? A stage of a journey is not a permanent abode: the traveller who sits down to rest himself, has not reached the end of his journey. Every power that is reversed, not by chance, but by time, by a change gradually worked in men's convictions and ideas, is now

re-established; and it is in vain to try to revive it under another name, or to give it fresh life under a new form;—it cannot re-adjust its dislocated members in the dust where it is stretched, an object of derision and insult. Of the divinity that had been set up, and before which men had knelt, there remain only some miserable shreds. When the Christians destroyed the gods of Egypt, rats were seen to escape from the heads of the idols. Everything, in short, is fast passing away; and in our time, there is not a child that comes into the world who is not the enemy of the old society.

"A future will arrive—one of power, and free in all the plenitude of gospel equality—but it is still distant, far beyond our visible horizon; it will only be reached by that hope which is tireless and proof against difficulties, and whose wings strengthen in proportion as the resting-place seems to recede—by that hope, powerful and more enduring than time, and which the Christian alone feels. Before reaching the bourne—before arriving at the unity of mankind and the new democracy—we must traverse the decomposition of society, a period of anarchy, perhaps of blood, certainly one of errors. The process of decomposition is begun, but it is not yet ready to reproduce out of its insufficiently-fomented materials the new world."

In another work, "The Congress of Verona," which may be said to be addressed to the Sovereigns in whose deliberations he himself assisted, he reiterates the same doctrine, and makes use of these remarkable words:—"Les rois s'en vont, la démocratie s'accroît, nous voyons la nouvelle société s'approcher de nous avec impetuosité comme le boulet de canon sur le champ de bataille." He even foresees the time as not far distant when sovereigns, finding themselves to be useless supernumeraries, will voluntarily abdicate and give in their resignations—a prediction that might startle by its boldness, did not the late events in France, Belgium, Bavaria, and Austria, look like an approximation to its fulfilment.

The length of this notice prevents me from offering some remarks on the composition of the new Ministry, as I meant to have done. I have merely to say, that the nomination of M. Passy to the Finances is generally approved of. His work on "On Aristocracy," which I have read in the original, and which I perceive has lately appeared in a translated form in England, is the one thing needful in that country, and may be read with profit by all classes. W.

Paris, December 30, 1848.

LONDON WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.—The sixth of these popular concerts took place at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday evening last, when the hall was densely crowded in every part. The principal features of attraction of the evening were a solo for the violin, performed by Master Rancheraye, a very interesting-looking youth, only eight years of age. The *morceau* selected by him was De Beriot's "Il tremolo," and was rapturously applauded. Miss Eliza Nelson, a young lady possessed of considerable personal attractions, made her *début* at these concerts, and met with a very flattering reception. She gave the favourite song, "Beautiful Nigh," with great taste and judgment, and was honoured with a rapturous *encore* in Linley's song, "Thou art gone from my gaze," which she sang at a short notice, in consequence of the absence of Miss Dolby, owing to indisposition, the announcement of which gave rise to loud expressions of dissatisfaction. Mr. Sims Reeves was in fine voice, and was encored in everything. Thalberg and Vivier likewise delighted their audiences with their truly wonderful performances; and the entire of the concert reflected the utmost credit upon the spirited managers of this very successful undertaking.

THE BEGGING "PROFESSION."—At a recent meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, the Rev. Mr. Branch said that a short time since he visited a room in Westminster, where he saw a woman with a dying child in her arms. Commiserating the wretched creature's condition, he inquired into her history and her means of livelihood, and, in answer to his questions, she replied, "Oh, Sir, my sufferings are great, and so are those of my child; but when my child is gone, I know not what to do." "But," observed Mr. Branch, "it will be a happy release for you and your child, as you can make no exertions while you are burdened with her." "Oh, dear, Sir," ejaculated the mother, "when she is gone, I'll have to pay 9d. a day for another child, while she costs me nothing. Unless I do so I'll earn nothing by begging, for it is the children that excite compassion." In another room in the house Mr. Branch found 40 beggars, vagabonds and rogues, male and female, young, old, lame, and blind, gathered round a fire, all relating their exploits, and planning for their next attacks upon the public. In a regular warehouse, in Westminster, he saw exhibited for hire and sale every variety of dresses, including widows' weeds and tattered rags, shabby-genteel costumes, clerical suits, &c., adapted to the different plans of mendicant operations pursued by the several parties who patronized this extraordinary bazaar, and who made begging a "profession."

ARRIVAL IN LONDON OF LOLA MONTES.—This celebrated individual attended on Saturday at Nicholson's Wharf the examination of her baggage and effects, which had arrived by a steamer from Boulogne a day or two before. She made a declaration before the authorities, in the long room of the Custom-house, respecting them, which she attested with the signature of "Marie, Countess of Landsfeldt."

A TEETOTAL MAYOR'S FEAST.—Mr. G. W. Harrison, the newly elected Mayor of Wakefield, at his inauguration dinner to the members of the corporation, did not allow his guests any wine. Ginger-beer, lemonade, and water flowed profusely.

"HOW CAN A VOTE INCREASE YOUR EARNINGS?" — THE QUESTION ANSWERED.*

BY J. H. TILLET.

Reformers are often charged with misleading the people, by the advocacy of absurd theories and abstract notions of Government, which, if adopted by the Legislature, would not benefit their condition, either by increasing their earnings, or lessening the taxes they are now called upon to pay. It is tauntingly asked, "How will a vote relieve your hunger?" "How can politics find you with bread?" The object of the following remarks is to prove, not only that a thorough reform in Parliament is necessary in order to the reduction and adjustment of the immense burden of taxation, both national and local, which now oppresses us, but also to show to the working man that the possession and honest use of his right to vote *must* have a direct bearing upon the improvement of his physical condition.

England is the richest country in the world, and, in the aggregate, is richer now than at any former period. But the present state of the labouring population is, nevertheless, one of unparalleled destitution. Whilst thousands are growing in wealth and power, millions are sinking in want and despair.

There is enough for all. Land enough—wealth enough, to support all. God has been beneficent, nay lavish, in his gifts. If the plenty showered down by Him could be reached by all his creatures, there need not be a starving man in Britain. Human distributors have interposed between the gifts of Providence and the wants of men. The selfishness of man has counteracted the beneficence of God. Look to Ireland, the most wretched spot on earth—it is demonstrable that our unhappy sister country, in which millions are on the brink of ruin or starvation, and from which thousands are flying as from an accursed land, has in *her soil* the power to support nearly three times the number of her present inhabitants; and now, whilst her own people are starving, she exports for the maintenance of strangers, grain, meat, butter, and other provisions, to the extent of several millions a year. England, of whose population two millions are paupers, and hundreds of thousands on the verge of pauperism, has in her soil the capacity for the support of the entire people, and immensely more. Alison (on Population, vol. i. p. 51,) an authority of the highest character, states that "on the most moderate calculation, Great Britain and Ireland are capable of maintaining 120 millions of inhabitants in ease and affluence." Thus the Father of all has abundantly provided for all. Sad and terrible anomaly! Though there is enough for all, millions starve.

Some say this is a mystery—others, that it is the will of Providence. It is class legislation which has worked out in Ireland, and is working out in England, its legitimate and necessary results in the impoverishment of one class, and the aggrandizement of another. It can clearly be proved by a few simple propositions, that the evil is *not over-population*, but *unfair distribution*.

1. It must be admitted, that there is an apparent surplus population. Under existing circumstances, there are more in this country than can live as things are, but not more than could live, if things were as they ought to be.

2. The precise immediate cause of our present pauperism and low wages, is the excessive and unnatural competition, caused by the pressure of more applicants into the labour market than can find employment. This is the apparent surplus—we shall see how this arises.

3. In no other country is so large a proportion of the population entirely dependent upon wages, and so small a proportion maintained on the land. The former has been, year by year, increasing; the latter decreasing in like rate. The last census report gives the following startling table, showing the proportions engaged in agricultural, commercial, and miscellaneous occupations, in four different periods within the last forty years—it gives the rate per cent. in each class.

Year.	Agricultural.	Commercial.	Miscellaneous.
1811	35	44	21
1821	33	46	21
1831	29	42	30
1841	23	46	32

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, less than 300 years ago, the agricultural population was three-fourths of the whole. The agricultural population now is less than one-fourth. Though the population of Great Britain since 1811 has increased one-half, the number employed in agriculture was less in 1841 than in 1811.

1811 Population 12,596,803—Agricultural 4,408,808 35 per cent.
1841 " 18,844,424 " 4,145,703 22 "

The entire of this enormous increase of six millions was absorbed by, or thrown as a burden upon, manufacturing, commercial, or miscellaneous occupations. Although a greater quantity of land has been brought into cultivation, and an immensely increased value of several millions a year added to it, fewer persons derived their livelihood from it in 1841, than thirty years before, and the force of competition for wages in other districts was thus fearfully increased. The increasing ratio in which agricultural employments have diminished, is another striking fact.

4. Year by year, land in this country is falling into fewer hands, both as owners and occupiers; not by accident, but by the necessary tendency of the system. Fewer persons own the land, fewer cultivate it, fewer live out of it. The yeomanry, once the pride and boast of England, is nearly extinct. Small farms are swallowed up. Where there were ten farms, in which ten families comfort-

* The above forcibly-written article is published as a cheap tract by Jarrold and Sons, Norwich.

ably and respectably gained a livelihood, there is now but one immense farm, and they who were once farmers, are now bailiffs, stewards, or labourers. Thousands have thus been driven from agricultural to commercial pursuits; nor have the labouring population derived benefit from the change, for an eminent authority states that "the quantity of food for the production of which the labour of five families was formerly employed, is now produced by the labour of four families."*

5. A man with an average family can, that is, there is a physical possibility that he can, by industry and skill, gain a sufficient livelihood off two acres of good land, but to prevent any objection, say four acres. There are more than 28 million acres of cultivated land in England and Wales, and there are four millions of families; upwards of seven acres for each family! This is exclusive of four millions of uncultivated land, which would give an extra acre to each. This is the natural provision made for our wants. How has it been distributed? The whole of these 28 millions of acres are the property of not more than 60,000 persons; I believe less than that. Some say 80,000, but all agree that not more than 1 in 200 of our population has a rod of land. The owners are becoming fewer, year by year. As to the cultivation of the soil, only one family is supported on every 34 acres—only nineteen families on every square mile. It has been stated by a good practical authority, that "three labourers to 100 acres are a full complement." The population returns prove this fact. Thus it is clearly proveable, that land from which it is possible for the entire nation to derive its support, is so distributed and cultivated, as that not more than one-fourth do actually subsist upon it. If there are within the limits of our country, the means of support for millions more than now live here, what becomes of the nostrum of over-population?

6. It being abundantly clear that the system which regulates the possession and cultivation of the soil, has driven an immense array of competitors into the labour market, and thus reduced wages and pauperized the masses, it is most important to define what that system is from which such consequences ensue. England is, I believe, almost the only country in which the law of primogeniture and entail regulates the descent of landed estates, and hence we observe, that in France, where properties are compulsorily divided amongst all the children, out of seven millions of families five millions and a half possess some portion of land; there, more than two out of three; here, not more than one in two hundred are directly interested in the soil. What makes this difference? Legislation. The laws of England facilitate accumulation and monopoly. The laws of France compel division and distribution. The latter may be too stringent and arbitrary, but the former err on the other side, and regarding the maintenance of a territorial aristocracy as the *summum bonum*, overlook the claims and necessities of the millions. The medium course which was centuries ago adopted by our Saxon ancestors, and at the present time by the United States of America, is probably the wisest; but the principle for which I contend is, that the tendency of the law should be reversed, and should encourage distribution, and not monopoly, as now it does.

7. But not only is the favoured accumulation of land one of the main sources of the present excessive competition for labour, but at the same time it leads to an immense increase of taxation. The aristocracy, in order to maintain their rank and wealth, entail their estates upon their eldest descendants, in the confident assurance that the younger branches will be provided for by an indulgent public. The same aristocracy, having supreme power in the Legislature, have so managed affairs, as that the army, navy, the church and colonies, supply the means of support to those younger branches; and from the same necessity arise numberless sinecures, pensions, and needless offices, both in Church and State. To prove the growing nature of this evil it is sufficient to state, that the army, navy, and ordnance departments cost six millions sterling more in 1848 than in 1836; and that the whole expenditure of the country for the year ending January, 1848, exceeded by ten millions that of the year ending January, 1836.

Our system of legislation, then, results in four most grave consequences:—

1st. *Monopoly in Land*, the prime source of subsistence.

2nd. *Oppressive Taxation*, to keep up enormous establishments, in which the younger branches of the aristocracy, deprived of their patrimony, are maintained by the State.

3rd. *An Unfair System of Taxation*, which presses heavily upon the articles of comfort and the necessities of life consumed by the working classes, and gives unjust exemptions to landed property.

4th. The Pauperism of the Masses, through excessive competition and deprivation of the natural source of livelihood, and the depression of the trading-classes, whose prosperity depends upon the working-classes.

Thus is the connexion made painfully clear between our present legislative system and the evils which oppress us.

8. The history of England reveals numberless cases in which the predominant power of one class in Parliament has promoted its own interests, at the expense of the nation. The large estates of many of our nobility were originally held for religious or charitable trusts for the good of the people, and especially of the poor. The law confirms their title, though it arises from centuries of

wrongful possession. Can any lapse of time sanctify injustice? Pitt proposed to tax real and personal estate to the legacy and probate duties—a Parliament of landowners exempted land. The commons, which were a great advantage to the poor, were enclosed for the benefit of landowners. Tithes, originally designed in part for the relief of the poor, are now held by the nobility as lay-holders, or by the clergy for their own sole benefit. The poor-rate system shows the same tendency—Close parishes, the property of single landowners, are cleared of cottages—contiguous parishes are over-burdened—towns compelled to support the worn-out labourer of the country squire—the rates of the city are nearly three times those of the country. These instances prove enough—so naturally selfish is man, that it will not do to trust any one class with power. Parliament should fairly represent and then it will fully protect the interests of all. The working classes are denied the right to vote, but allowed to pay taxes on nearly all they consume. For every 20s. of tea they pay 10s. of duty; for every 20s. of sugar, 6s.; coffee, 8s.; soap, 5s.; beer, 4s.; tobacco, 16s.; spirits, 14s. If the man is unfit to vote, why condescend to take his money?

9. The remedy, then, for all these wrongs, is the counteraction of class legislation, by a thorough reform in Parliament, securing fair and equal representation to all classes of the people. From this will result necessarily—Every possible reduction in the national expenditure—The abolition of all unnecessary places and pensions—The adjustment of taxation, so that every man shall pay according to his ability; the rich not paying for the poor, or the poor for the rich.

But it will be asked, How will such reforms affect the monopoly in land? My reply is, The nobility have the same affection for their offspring that we have for ours, and when they find that an indulgent public will no longer provide for their younger children, they will divide their property as other people do. Monopoly will thus receive its death-blow at the hands of natural affection, without any rude interference with the rights of property. There will be no spoliation—no communism. A system of rapid counteraction will alleviate the evils of the past, and prove that the true happiness of the aristocracy is identified with that of the people.

THE DAILY NEWS AND THE NEW REFORM PARTY.—The new Reform party, intending to make the *Daily News* their organ, have thrown £25,000 into the treasury, it being understood that the speeches of all the Parliamentary men connected with the Hume and Cobden section of the house shall be fully reported. I understand it was arranged the other day, at a meeting in Manchester, that, if further funds were necessary for carrying on the paper spiritedly, they would be forthcoming.—*Liverpool Albion* correspondent.

The *New York Mirror* states that a discovery has been made of a method of producing batter instantly, by forcing air through cream.

A FATAL DISASTER HAPPENED AT THE VICTORIA THEATRE on "Boxing-night." An unusual crowd assembled at the gallery entrance, to secure good places for a sight of the pantomime. On the opening of the doors, the staircase became so crammed with struggling persons of all ages, that some of the weaker fainted. The people at the bottom of the stairs refusing to assist the retreat of those endeavouring to escape suffocation, the rails of the staircase were broken down, and a number of persons fell over on the heads of the crowd below. A panic arose, and in the rush which followed many were trampled to the earth. Two boys were killed, another is expected to die of his bruises, and a great number of boys and women are seriously hurt. Leonard Tutchin, a youth who was taken up insensible, states that some men wilfully added to the danger and alarm by their violent conduct. He offered one man sixpence to let him escape; but got the reply—"No; you are here, and we shall wedge you in as close as we can." The lad screamed "Murder!" on which the man lifted him up above the heads of his companions, and threw him over the bannister, on to the people below. He fell on a poor boy, whom he heard cry out, "Oh, I am killed!" and soon became insensible himself. An inquest was held on Friday by Mr. Carter on the bodies of the two boys killed by the crowd at the Victoria Theatre on Boxing-night. The evidence showed that the boys died from suffocation simply; and the story ascribed to the lad Kitchener was not adopted by him in his evidence. He was not thrown over the balustrade by any man; he slipped down among the feet of the crowd, and could not rise; he was trodden on, and nearly choked; he bit a man's leg to call attention to himself, and was then drawn out. Verdicts of "Accidental death" were found in each case; with recommendations of improved lighting and ventilation in the entrances to the theatre.

FEMALE CURIOSITY.—On Tuesday night week, about nine o'clock, a man entered a huckster's shop at Heavitree, kept by an old woman, and demanded a pennyworth of treacle. This being given, he asked for a sheet of the stiffest paper she had in the shop, and whilst the venerable dame was looking with all curiosity at his proceedings in plastering the brown paper sheet with the treacle, the artful thief suddenly pressed the whole over her face, and then safely decamped with some cheeses.—*Exeter Gazette*.

FREE-TRADE DEMONSTRATION, MANCHESTER.—It has been determined to celebrate the passing away of the old corn-law by a large banquet, to be held in the Free-trade Hall, Manchester, on the 31st of January, 1849, the day when that law will cease to exist.

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

THE TEN-HOURS ACT.—ITS OPPRESSIVENESS.

(From the *Spectator*.)

The denizens of the factories are discovering practically that the Ten-hours Act does not accomplish their happiness. Over-work has its evils, but no work is worse. The workpeople found that the system of lengthened hours was grievous to them, every one; they found in the case of young children, that if the hours were limited as to the workpeople, but unlimited as to the factory, the restriction could be evaded; and by the help of Lord Ashley, they obtained the Ten-hours Act, which limits the working of the machinery to ten hours. Now it appears that in Manchester there is a redundancy of labourers, and also some revival of work; it would therefore be better to employ more than one set of workpeople in every mill, each relay being employed only ten hours, but the machinery of course working longer; in this way employment can be given to a greater number without loss to the millowner.

Among others, Messrs. James Kennedy and Co., actually adopted that plan, and thus laid themselves open to an information under the Factory Act. They were first prosecuted under the 26th section, for working the mill more than ten hours daily, counting from the commencement of the first set of workers. It was proved that no one hand had worked more than ten hours; and the magistrates dismissed the case. The firm were again prosecuted for putting up notices specifying different periods of time for the different relays; the Inspector contending that only one period, calculated from the commencement of the first hand, can be notified; so that Messrs. Kennedy and Co. had not put up the notice required by the act. For the firm it was contended, that a discord between the enacting clauses of the act and the schedule gave a loophole which enabled them to notify the different periods; and again the magistrates dismissed the complaint.

In this decision they are acting against the judgment of their own stipendiary and legally-educated colleague, Mr. Maude, of all the Factory Inspectors, of the Law-officers of the Crown, and of Sir James Graham. If their decision is suffered to stand, they are permitted to override an act of Parliament; if it be reversed, the poor will be debarred from employment.

Repeal the Factory Act, then, you cry;—for the advocates of a Ten-hours law say that to abolish the restriction on the machinery would so open the door to evasion that it would be tantamount to entire repeal. The expediency of repeal is not made out by the bad working of the law. Go back to simple "free-trade" in labour, and you have the old state of things—children crippled by premature toil; men displaced from work and set "to cook at home," while women do the work; and other evils neither imaginary nor light to endure. It is stated that at Paisley, the operation of the act, by throwing women out of work, induces vicious female habits; nothing could exceed their viciousness in the days of long hours. Either way there is social disorganization: permit unrestricted labour, and parents send their children to be crippled by "white slavery;" forbid it, and children become a burden, left to a nurse who poisons them with some quieting opiate, or killed to obtain the burial allowance from a club. What then is to be done—repeal the act, or enforce it?

THE FREEHOLD FRANCHISE.

(From the *Daily News*.)

The movement now making in Birmingham by the Freehold Land Society has the strongest claims on public notice and sympathy. It is a movement towards a real extension of the suffrage, which no amount of undue influence in Parliament can thwart or obstruct. It is a movement which, if perseveringly and successfully carried on, will render the Reform Act of 1831, hitherto in a great measure illusory, a reality.

From a letter which appears in this day's publication, it will be seen that the society has made an additional purchase of land, sufficient to qualify 270 forty-shilling freeholders. We have on other occasions noticed the completion of purchases by the society, and may remind our readers that though it has been little more than a year in operation, 195 allotments of freehold building land have already been made to members.

The secret of the society's success is its calling the principle of association into play to enable purchasers of retail allotments of land to obtain them at wholesale prices. Building-land selling at 3s. 4d. and 3s. 6d. per yard *retail* has been purchased by the society and conveyed to its members for 1s. 1d. per yard. An individual purchaser would require to pay £50 or £70 for a freehold entitling him to a county vote; the society has put purchasers into possession of such freeholds for £20. A freehold qualification in a county may be obtained by subscribing 1s. 6d. a-week for five years, and some of the allotments made by the society have already been let on building leases for 99 years at 50 per cent. per annum on the purchase-money.

This plan, if followed out, will give numerous county constituencies, independent county constituencies, prudent county constituencies. It enables the honest and industrious artisan to acquire the full rights of a citizen. It enables him to do so by the persevering exercise of economy and accumulation, with a view to secure an independence, the surest basis of the citizen virtues. It is favourable to the formation of resident constituencies above the influence of organized party leaders. It

* See Porter's Progress of the Nation, vol. i. p. 52. Lord Montagu's Report on Burdens on Real Property, House of Lords, 1846.—Population Returns.

enables the prudent, honest, and industrious, among the town and village populations throughout the empire, to obtain a voice in the elections of their respective counties.

Something of the same kind that is now doing in North Warwickshire has been done, though at a greater expense, in South Lancashire. If the example of the men of Birmingham be followed in the West Riding, it will enable the real liberals there to retrieve their ascendancy at next election, whatever course the Whig aristocracy may see fit to pursue. And if the practicability of the system be once experimentally established in the manufacturing districts, it will be taken up in every county in the kingdom.

POPE PIUS THE NINTH.

(From the *Manchester Examiner and Times*.)*

So long as Austria was powerful enough to command a military supremacy in Italy, it was her policy to crush every movement that promised the slightest approach to a constitutional system. The subdivision of the peninsula into petty states favoured this policy, and gave her a dictatorial power over both princes and people. This power was exercised to retard every movement: and notwithstanding the most urgent protest on the part of enlightened men, this system was persevered in until an almost fanatical desperation had sprung up amongst all classes of civilians and a considerable proportion of the unbeneficed clergy. So intolerable had become the system of government in the Papal states, before the death of Gregory the Sixteenth, that nothing but the iron hand of Austria could have kept him on his throne. It was under these circumstances that Pius the Ninth assumed the tiara, forced upon rather than chosen by the cardinals, for his known abhorrence of the system of proscription, terror, and tyranny, which had characterised the government of the legations from 1815 to 1846.

Pope Gregory the Sixteenth died on the 1st of June, 1846. On Sunday, the 14th, the cardinals went with great pomp in procession into conclave. The following morning news circulated through Rome that a new Pope was chosen. It has been said that the election of Cardinal Ferretti was carried by acclamation. This, however, does not appear to have been the case. There were three scrutinies. At the first ballot, Cardinal Lambruschini—the stern and cruel minister of Gregory XVI.—had a majority of votes, but not sufficient for a decision. Thirty-four votes were the number required for an election. The cardinals, alarmed at the prospect of the election of the unpopular Lambruschini, and fearing the consequences of the existing disaffection of the inhabitants of the Roman States, withdrew their votes on the third scrutiny from Lambruschini and hastily transferred them to Cardinal Ferretti, who happened to be one of the three cardinals charged with the opening of the voting papers. On opening the thirty-fourth, which gave him the desired majority, his emotion was so great that he fainted. On the morning of Tuesday, June 16, the piazza of the Quirinal presented a magnificent *coup d'ail*. The sky was deep, clear, and beautiful—the piazza crowded with an immense concourse of people, and the papal troops drawn up in front of the balcony. At nine o'clock Cardinal Camerlengo appeared to announce the exaltation of Cardinal Mastai Ferretti to the papacy, under the name of Pius the Ninth. Pius the Ninth was in his 54th year when elected, having been born at Senegalia in 1792. Born of a noble family, he was originally intended for the army, but rumour says, that having fallen deeply in love with a young English lady, at Rome, who refused the proffered alliance, on the grounds of the difference in religion, young Ferretti resolved to retire from the world, and devote himself to the church. For several years after his ordination, he devoted himself to pastoral duties with an exemplary self-devotion that won universal esteem. He was nominated by Pope Pius the Seventh on a mission to the government of Chili, in South America, shortly after the recognition of the independence of that republic. The delicate duties of this mission were performed with such discretion, that on his return to Rome he was nominated by Leo the Twelfth to one of the most important of the ecclesiastical civil departments of administration in the city of Rome. During the pontificate of Gregory the Sixteenth he was sent as apostolic nuncio to Naples, and whilst the cholera was raging there, in 1836, he personally visited the hospitals and homes of the sick, disposing of almost the whole of his moveable property to relieve their necessities, and administering day and night religious consolations to the afflicted. In 1840, he was created cardinal archbishop of Imola, in the Romagna, where serious political disaffection existed. The liberality of his sentiments, and the genuine spirit of self-denial with which he devoted himself to the duties of his diocese, gained the hearts of the people, and soon restored tranquillity to the district. During the six years of his episcopacy he was only twice absent from his bishopric—the first time when he visited Rome to receive his cardinal's hat, and the second time when he left to attend the conclave for the election of a successor to Gregory the Sixteenth. That election transferred him from a bishopric to the papacy.

The reforms introduced by Pope Pius immediately after his election, raised the hopes and excited the enthusiasm not only of the Romans but of the whole Italian people. The proscriptions and imprisonments of the previous reign afforded him the graceful opportunity of inaugurating the new era by a

* The above sketch is accompanied, in the Saturday's supplement of our spirited contemporary, by an excellent likeness of the Pope.

signal act of mercy. An amnesty was proclaimed for all political offenders, which was supposed to have restored about 3,000 citizens, principally of noble or highly respectable connexions, to their families or friends. The state of confusion, however, which the new Pope found prevailing in almost every public department, rendered the task of reform not only difficult but hazardous. The secularization of all civil offices was calculated at once to raise a formidable hostility through all the higher ecclesiastical ranks, inasmuch as all the administrative functions had been an exclusive monopoly of the prelates, and distributed an immense amount of patronage through the subordinate gradations of the clerical body. The freedom of the press and the public administration of justice were reforms that were well calculated in quiet times to develop the gradual growth of public opinion in unison with the spirit of free institutions. Pope Pius had no doubt conceived the possibility of effecting such practical reformations in the general government as would strengthen him sufficiently with the moderate party, represented by the Marquis D'Azeglio, to resist the broader demands of the more democratic portion of his subjects. He was to a great extent carried away by the outburst of popularity which followed the earlier declarations of his intentions, and was but slightly acquainted with the deep hold which democratic sentiments had taken in the masses of the people. But so soon as the French revolution in February had aroused the oppressed nations of Europe, the enthusiasm that had carried the name of Pío Nono over the whole of Italy, received an impulse in a new direction. The sentiment of a common nationality spread throughout the different states, and awakened the demand, not for administrative reforms alone, but for thoroughly popular systems of representative government. From that moment the popularity of the Pope began to wane. A policy of reaction was commenced that only tended to increase the agitation for a responsible Ministry, and a Parliament elected by the whole people. Subsequent concessions were rather extorted than made, which tended still further to strengthen the differences between the Pope and his subjects. Count Rossi was placed at the head of a reactionary Ministry, and something like an aspect of defiance shown towards the Parliamentary majority. The brutal assassination of Count Rossi left the Pope in the hands of the popular leaders and a democratic Legislature. He could neither go forward nor retreat. His sole reliance was on the force of those traditional sentiments of veneration for the Head of the Church which have always been so powerful amongst the Roman populace. He fled to Gaeta, in the hope of reawakening, by his absence, the ancient instincts that were so long the bulwark of the Papal See. Never before were the two principles of temporal sovereignty and spiritual supremacy placed in such logical antagonism. The problem of their compatibility in the same hands is in course of solution. If the absolute prelate cannot be made to harmonize with the constitutional monarch, will the Roman people consent to sacrifice their rights as citizens, or separate the sceptre of power from the crozier of authority? The universal dominion of the Church is surely a field of administration wide enough for the exclusive cares of a conclave of cardinals. On the solution of the problem now at issue between the Pope and the Roman people, hangs a new era in the civil as well as the ecclesiastical history of Christendom.

THE "DAILY NEWS."

The *Daily News*, of Monday, confirms the statement we published a fortnight ago, relative to the price being raised and the size enlarged. After a brief review of its three years' history, in which it notices the fact, that during the past year the *Morning Chronicle* and the *Times* became the decided opponents of Liberal opinion, our contemporary adverts to the importance of having one efficient organ to combat "the four Goliaths."—"The friends whom we have gained amongst public men and popular parties are not contented to see the Tory and aristocratic organs alone bestow upon their partizans the advantages of full reports, ample abettal, documentary and detailed intelligence. To meet these views, as well as the necessity of reporting, representing, and defending Liberal opinion, and giving the speeches, manifestations, arguments, and efforts of the great popular and Liberal party, of which, with the exception of the *Morning Advertiser*, we remain the sole daily organ—we perceive that for all this the circumscribed space of our usual number of columns no longer suffices.

"The proprietors of the *Daily News*, therefore, at the urgent request of the friends of retrenchment and reform, have determined that, preparatory to the session of 1849, it shall assume the large and double size of the other morning papers, for the sake of giving the fullest reports of debates in Parliament, of proceedings in the law courts, and in the various popular assemblies throughout the country. The commercial and foreign intelligence will, at the same time, receive fuller development, as well as every other branch of discussion, criticism, or intelligence that falls within the purpose of a newspaper to embrace. To do all these, the experiment which we have already made, at an almost incredible cost, has satisfactorily convinced us that it is requisite to raise the price of the paper to that standard which the public seems not unwilling to pay for a full and double sheet. We take this step, we again repeat, at the requisition of the large liberal party, which considers such a size indispensable to the requirements of a great popular newspaper.

"At the same time we are determined not to deprive that portion of the public which supported the

principle of a cheap journal, of the desideratum, for which they and we have struggled. Our evening edition, the *Express*, will continue to be published at the usual price of threepence, and will continue to supply the condensed debates and intelligence of that cheap and compact journal, which has not been found sufficient for the wants and aims of a morning circulation.

"The *Daily News* needs not to make a formal profession of its principles. To render the House of Commons in fact as in theory the representatives of the people and property of this empire; to root out the abuses in Church and State; to expose fearlessly the faults or failings of the Government, and compel the executive, albeit exclusively constituted of aristocratic elements, to conduct the affairs of State with that prudent regard to economy which marks the character of a commercial and industrious community—these have been and will be the principles of the *Daily News*. For the success of our renewed efforts we have no other reliance than upon the patronage of the great body of the people. If too little attention have been hitherto paid to the support of their organs of the press by the unprivileged classes, we have reason to believe that a wiser course will in future be adopted by the really independent party in this country."

THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN CALIFORNIA.—

Douglas Jerrold's Newspaper thus refers to the consequence upon the currency of the discovery of gold in California:—"Now, assuming that the auriferous region of California should become as productive in gold as the mines of South America proved to be rich in silver in the sixteenth century, it is quite possible that the old proportions between the metals would be established, in which case gold would decline 50 per cent. from its present value. The question then arises, how should we deal with the fundholder? For every pound he now receives 123 grains of gold: but that weight of metal, under the altered circumstances we are now contemplating, might only purchase 15s. or 10s., in which case, the fundholder would insist that his pound should be proportionately increased in weight. Such a demand would of course be resisted; the debtor class, so long plundered, would refer to Sir Robert Peel's definition of a pound, fixed by him at 123 grains, and adhere to the existing bargain. It is under these views, hitherto unnoticed by the newspapers, that the recent discoveries become of such immense importance; and as the intelligence is guaranteed to be authentic by the late speech of the President of the United States, we are not permitted to treat it as fabulous or exaggerated. We have no such statesmen in our days as Burleigh or Walsingham, but we have their experience and wise measures for our guide, and having now warned the fundholder, the mortgagee, and the annuitant, of what may happen, it remains for them to be on their guard, and vigilantly watch the result of operations in the gold districts of California."

THE REVENUE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PRESENT

QUARTER will not be made up until Saturday next. Meanwhile the *Observer* gives the following information on the subject:—"It is satisfactory in the highest degree to find that the falling off in the revenue of the country, which was observable at the close of 1847 and the commencement of 1848, has at length received a wholesome check, and that our ordinary resources begin again to show a buoyant and upward tendency. The Customs revenue is expected to exhibit an increase over the corresponding quarter of last year little short of half a million. We are sorry to add that the other most important indication of the state of trade and of employment, the excise, will not answer so favourably to the wishes of the public. In this important item the receipts will vary little from those of the last January quarter. The only other item from which an increase is expected is that classed under the head of "Miscellaneous," which is expected to yield more than £200,000 in this quarter; £80,000 of which, however, is the last payment on account of the Chinese ransom, which was referred to in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's estimate last session. The other items, stamps, taxes, property-tax, &c., will be scarcely as good as last year. The most considerable falling off is apprehended in the stamps, which is expected to be about £200,000, a great part of which is accounted for by the transfer of the carriage duties from the stamps to the excise. The post-office shows little difference. The amount of falling off in the property-tax in the quarter is not much of a criterion, since that impost is collected with more or less uncertainty in the different quarters of the year, by much the larger portions being received in the April and October quarters. The gross revenue for the year will also show favourably in comparison with the corresponding period, ending January 5, 1848. But a still more correct criterion of returning prosperity is to be found in the fact that the nine months, counting from April 5, 1848, to the present time, exhibit a considerable advance over the corresponding nine months, counted from April 5, 1847, to January 5, 1848. From this, and from the activity of trade, still so happily observable, it is fairly assumed that the conclusion of the financial year on the 5th of April next will find us in a much more satisfactory and prosperous condition than we were on the 5th of April last.

SIGNIFICANT FACT.—An Italian from London has been in Bideford vending models of the Virgin Mary and the saints, which commodities, it is said, have commanded a ready sale among the Tractarian party in the church. The models are of exquisite beauty, and fetch a guinea a piece.

IRELAND.

INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE.

A correspondent of the *Dublin Advocate* "communicates" some particulars of the Courtown Fish-curing Company:—"The undertaking was commenced by the Earl of Courtown, and a few of the neighbouring gentry; who subscribed to form a kind of joint-stock company of 100 shares of £5 each, of which £3 per share has been paid up. We are fully convinced that such undertakings, in order to produce real benefit to the country (the sole object of this attempt), must be conducted on sound commercial principles; and we have therefore determined to pursue the most rigid economy in everything we do. The curing-houses, with all the necessary outfit, have been completed within our original estimates; we have already purchased and cured a considerable quantity of fish, at prices which we have fair reason to think will be remunerative; we have been obliged to procure an experienced hand from Scotland to manage the operative part of the concern; and its general working is narrowly watched over by a committee, who meet weekly. It is too early in the day to venture on any evidence of its usefulness; but we may mention that boats from Kingstown and Bullock have come to fish here, for the first time, since we began—and they have acted as a stimulus to our own boats already—and that an effort to improve the fishery has likewise been brought forward at Cahore, about six miles to the Southward."

It is stated also, that "most respectable mercantile firms in Dublin and Liverpool have concluded with the Board of Works for the purchase of the curing stations at Belmullet, on the coast of Mayo, and Killybegs, on the Donegal coast."

The *Northern Whig* lately described the commencement of enterprises in other fields:—"A number of gentlemen have become lessees of an extensive district in the county Antrim, comprising nearly 25,000 acres, in which they had already opened one colliery. In this they found three seams of coal; one being anthracite; another being similar to Scotch coal, and well suited for the purposes of machinery; and the third a very superior kind of coal, with which the lessees hope soon to supply the town of Belfast. This is a district to which little attention has hitherto been directed as a coal-field, on account of its supposed unimportance. But one branch of industry can rarely be vigorously carried on without affecting or leading to the establishment of others: so the working of the Antrim coal-fields is soon likely to be accompanied by the erection of extensive iron-works, the materials for which are found in abundance on the spot. A vein of iron-stone has been found nearly three feet in thickness, superior to the celebrated iron-stone of Scotland, and capable of producing from 60 to 64 per cent. of iron. For working this, blast furnaces, with other suitable apparatus, are to be erected: and we need scarcely add, that we wish the enterprising gentlemen to whom we are indebted for this important movement, all success in their praiseworthy efforts."

MINISTERIAL MEASURES.—At the annual dinner of the Marquis of Lansdowne's tenantry in Queen's County, given in Maryborough on the 21st, Mr. J. R. Price, Lord Lansdowne's agent, announced some public measures:—"I have heard, from the highest authority, that upon the first day of the session Ministers are determined to appoint a committee; and a committee appointed by the House, and that by a member, is quite different. That of the House would be a mixed committee of English and Irish representatives, while the member could fix upon his own choice. I believe the measures will be not only for the revision of the poor-law, but also for the benefit of the occupying tenant." The *Dublin Evening Post* makes a statement to the same effect, on the authority of a London correspondent.

THE COMMITTEE OF IRISH POOR-LAW GUARDIANS appointed by the meeting on Tuesday, the 19th ult., and reported by us last week, have forwarded to the different country boards propositions for the modification of the poor-law, in accordance with their petition. They recommend that the area of taxation be diminished; that the workhouse staff and the medical charities be supported by a national rate; and that the general expense of relief be met by local rates.

LAND is surrendered by wholesale, even in the most fertile districts of the South, and in places which had been remarkable, whilst the potato flourished, for agrarian crimes arising out of competition for land. "We are informed," says the *Clonmel Chronicle*, "that over one thousand acres of land in the neighbourhood of Cahire have fallen into the hands of the Earl of Glengall (head landlord) during the last few weeks, either by process of law or voluntary eviction."

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—GRAND EVENING CONCERTS.—A series of admirable concerts, combining all the available musical talent, commences at the above excellent institution on Monday evening next. When we mention that amongst the artistes who will take part in the first concert are, Miss Dolby, the Misses Pyne, Miss Messent, Miss Anne Romer, Mrs. Alexander Newton, Miss Kate Loder, Messrs. Frank Bodda, Mr. Romer, Master Alexander Rancharaye, and, though last by no means least, the inimitable John Parry, it will easily be believed that a delightful treat is in store for the lovers of music.—It will also be seen, by an advertisement elsewhere, that Mr. G. Thompson, M.P., delivers the first of his lectures on British India to-morrow evening.

RECLAMATION OF THE OUTCAST.

On Monday week a public meeting was held at Dundee with the view of hearing addresses from Sheriff Watson, of Aberdeen, and J. H. Wilson, Esq., of that city, in reference to the success which had attended their efforts there to reclaim the adult members of the lowest and most depraved portion of the population.—Mr. Wilson gave an interesting account of what had been done by himself and others to reclaim the vicious portion of the inhabitants of a district of Aberdeen called Bowl-road. After the establishment of industrial schools for the young, it appeared to them that there was still something necessary to be done for the grown up. They were desirous to impress them with the truths of the gospel, and with that view they obtained a small room as a place of meeting in the very midst of the destitution and vice of the city, where two-thirds, if not three-fourths, of the crime was perpetrated. About twelve persons attended the first night, some of whom presented the most ferocious appearance that could be imagined. The next sabbath night there were about 20 came, and the number gradually increased, so that after some time the room, which was only 14 feet by 8, became too small. They then resolved on building in the coarsest and plainest way a small chapel, and this they effected—the site chosen being a place formerly occupied by a penny theatre, one of the lowest haunts of vice in Aberdeen. To induce the class they wished to come, they announced that there would be no seat rents, and no collection. The place was seated roughly for about 130. At first they had about 30, the same as in the other place; but here, too, a blessing attended their labours, as the number of the congregation gradually increased. And the congregation was composed of that class they were most desirous to reach—many who had been the pests of society, the disturbers of the peace, the participants in every vice, being brought within the sphere of their influence. Literally, the halt, the lame, and the blind, constituted a portion of their little congregation, some having been carried by others to the place of worship. Their success in this respect induced them to institute a Tract and Bible society among the same class. They had also instituted a temperance society among the same class, and this too had been attended with the happiest effects. Many who had been given up to drunkenness and almost every vice, were now decent and respectable members of society. Mr. Wilson then read an extract from a speech by Sheriff Watson, a letter from Mr. Barclay, the superintendent of police, Aberdeen, to show the diminution of crime in the Bowl-road district, and the good effect which had attended their efforts. The saving in police-rates alone, Mr. Wilson stated, as far as the wants of that district were concerned, was upwards of £100 a year, so great had been the change effected in the habits of the people. It had been supposed by many that these parties were destitute of feeling—but he had found even in those apparently the most hardened and debased, a well of deep feeling, which only required kindness and attention to draw it out. By a person mixing with them, speaking to them kindly, and taking an interest in them, and becoming acquainted with them, much might be done to reclaim the most worthless and abandoned. He did not approve of itinerant city missionaries, but rather of the system by which one person devoted himself to a particular district, and knew the parties within his district. In the district in Aberdeen to which he had referred, this he believed to have been one of the means of their success. There they knew all their congregation, and when a member was absent, on a Sabbath or on a week-day evening service, they immediately inquired as to the cause, and by this means showed the people that they really were interested in them. Mr. Wilson also explained that the movement was no sectarian one—they did not wish to make the people members of this or that particular church, but to make them Christians. Neither was the chapel for those who could go to other places of worship, but literally for those who, from their habits, were beyond the pale of society; and their object was to restore them to that society as useful members. Mr. Wilson concluded by an earnest appeal to the people of Dundee to take encouragement from the good which had attended their efforts in Aberdeen, and impressed on them the necessity of taking up the matter congregationally and individually.—A committee of inquiry on the subject was appointed.

REFORM MEETING IN MANCHESTER.—Some days ago it was stated that a public meeting of the free-traders of Manchester and the surrounding district would be held on the 4th instant, in the Free-trade Hall. That meeting is postponed to Wednesday se'nnight, the 10th instant, when a numerous assemblage is expected. Mr. George Wilson is to preside; and Mr. Cobden, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Bright, and a number of other Liberal M.P.'s, are to take part in the proceedings. Resolutions will be submitted to the meeting, proposing an enlarged and more complete system of registration, both for boroughs and shires, in all parts of the kingdom. The "registration" principle did much, in the opinion of all corn-law repealers, for the abolition of the corn-laws; and sanguine hopes are entertained that the same principle will carry Mr. Cobden's proposition for the reduction of taxation to the amount of £10,000 per annum.

THE FREE CHURCH EDUCATION COMMITTEE has issued a new report, from which it appears that the number of teachers under its superintendence amounts to 604, and the number of children under tuition to 50,000.

THE GOLD DISCOVERIES IN CALIFORNIA.

The interesting report of Colonel Mason, the military commandant of California, on the subject of the gold region lately discovered, has just been published. For all its sober, matter-of-fact style, this document exceeds in its wonderful statements the stories already prevalent, and deemed romantic. These are some of the "simple facts and occurrences" which the Colonel learnt on the evidence of his own eyes:—

The small valleys that run down into the stream called Weber's Creek, "are exceedingly rich, and two ounces were considered an ordinary yield for a day's work. A small gutter, not more than 100 yards long by four feet wide and two or three feet deep, was pointed out to me as the one where two men—William Daly and Rowy McCoon—had, a short time before, obtained 17,000 dollars' worth of gold. Captain Weber informed me that he knew that these two men had employed four white men, and about 100 Indians, and that at the end of one week's work they paid off their party, and had left 10,000 dollars' worth of gold. Another small ravine was shown me, from which had been taken upwards of 12,000 dollars' worth of gold. Hundreds of similar ravines, to all appearance, are as yet untouched."

"Mr. Sinclair, whose rancho is three miles above Sutter's, on the north side of the American, employs about fifty Indians on the north fork, not far from its junction with the main stream. He had been engaged about five weeks when I saw him, and up to that time his Indians had used simply closely-woven willow baskets. His nett proceeds (which I saw) were about 16,000 dollars' worth of gold. He showed me the proceeds of his last week's work—fourteen pounds avoirdupois of clean washed gold."

This incident occurred in the Colonel's presence at Weber's stores—a mere arbour of bushes, under which were exposed for sale goods and groceries suited to his customers. "A man came in, picked up a box of Seidlitz powders, and asked its price. Captain Weber told him it was not for sale. The man offered an ounce of gold; but Captain Weber told him it only cost fifty cents, and he did not wish to sell it. The man then offered an ounce and a half, when Captain Weber had to take it. The prices of all things are high; and yet Indians, who hardly knew before what a breech-cloth was, can now afford to buy the most gaudy dresses."

Colonel Mason considers, though thousands of ounces have been removed, that no serious impression has been made. "He has no hesitation now in saying, that there is more gold in the country drained by the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers than will pay the cost of the present war with Mexico a hundred times over."

The whole gold district is on the territory of the United States. Colonel Mason has resolved to permit all to work freely, and not to interfere, except in case of broils and disturbances; and he is surprised at the peaceful and quiet state of things. He recommends the State to take possession, appoint inspectors with high salaries, and let out surveys at a rent. But, under any plan, multitudes will intrude whom it will be impossible to keep out. The whole garrison of Monterey was at one time in danger of desertion. San Francisco, and the ships in its harbour, are left unoccupied.

It appears that some formidable claimants to a large portion of the gold territory have arisen—no other than our old friends the Mormons, who, not content with their own fool's paradise, claim a percentage of all the ore extracted. Nay, we are told that the entire force of all the Mormons will probably muster and come down to the Sacramento for the purpose of digging gold!

Another writer says:—

Thus far the gold has been obtained in the most primitive manner, by washing the earth in tin pans, wooden bowls, Indian baskets, &c. The average, I am told, has been 16 dollars per day for each man engaged, and the deeper the soil is dug the richer it becomes. One man obtained over 30 dollars in one washing—say 15 minutes. I was told by an old miner that not more than one-half of the gold is secured in the present rude careless way of working. With a proper machine and the use of quicksilver, double the amount could be taken from the same soil. The largest amount taken by one person in one day was 200 dollars. The pieces are of an extraordinary size, the largest weighing half an ounce. The mountains have been explored on every side, and gold found in every creek. It is the opinion of all, that 30,000 or 40,000 persons could be profitably employed on the ground now explored. Nor is gold the only mineral discovered here. Platina has been found in one place in some considerable quantity; and very extensive mines of silver ore have recently been discovered within five miles of the saw mill, and are said to be very rich. Iron is also abundant, and will pay about 85 per cent.

The richness of the soil in the immediate neighbourhood of the mines is most astonishing. Farms can be made in every direction that will feed all the miners that can be employed. The climate is found to be very healthy, and free from the chilly winds that hover around the sea coast. The granite of the mountains is said to be equal to the celebrated Quincy, and a beautiful quarry of marble has been discovered on the Consummy river, specimens of which will before many years adorn the fronts of public buildings in your flourishing city.

"The cry is still, they come!" While writing this two men have just arrived from a valley some five or six miles distant, bringing with them 250 dollars' worth of gold, obtained in five days.

As an evidence of the quality of the metal, we subjoin the official report, by Mr. John Warwick, of New York, of the result of his assay of some California gold-dust recently received from Monterey:—

I have assayed the portion of gold-dust or metal from California which you sent me, and the result shows that it is fully equal to any found in our southern gold mines.

I return you 10½ grains out of the 12 which I have tested, the value of which is 45 cents. It is 21½ carats fine—within half a carat of the quantity of English sovereigns or American eagles, and is almost ready to go to the Mint.

The finest gold metal we get is from Africa, which is 22½ to 23 carats fine. In Virginia we have mines, where the quality of the gold is much inferior, some of it as low as 19 carats; and in Georgia the mines produce it nearly 22 carats fine.

The gold of California which I have now assayed is fully equal to that of any, and much superior to some produced from the mines of our southern states.

A writer in the *New York Journal of Commerce* says:—

I have seen the specimens of gold sent to the Secretary at War by Colonel Mason. They are now exhibited at the President's house at Washington. They are valued at 4,000 dollars. Most of the specimens present the gold in a form resembling fish-scales. Some are in grains and in dust. There are also some lumps of pure gold, weighing nearly or quite an ounce, and some smaller. There are also specimens of gold mixed with quartz rock.

We have been favoured with the following extract from a private letter, dated New York, Dec. 12, 1848:—"There is sufficient information in this city to warrant the conjecture that, by the 1st of March, we shall receive three millions, and after that time at least one million a month. You will understand that the surface only of the ground in the valley of Sacramento has been explored; it is possible, therefore, that large mines of mineral wealth may be found in the mountains. This would be to be deplored, as it would turn the whole country of California to the mines instead of pursuing the peaceful occupation of agriculture and commerce. The effect of this gold coming into our market will be to turn the exchanges in our favour, and we should keep them so, unless the Americans, not profiting by the experience of '35 and '36, should again import more goods than they can pay for. If this turn out to be the El Dorado, what effect is it going to have on the monetary affairs of England? That is the question which every one now asks his neighbour." It would appear from various facts that have come to our knowledge that the gold-finding mania has extended itself to this side of the Atlantic, and emigrants are eagerly looking towards the land of promise. From one such correspondent we have received the following pithy query:—"Mr. Editor,—Please to give your readers an idea of the cheapest and best way to California.—A CONSTANT READER."—*Daily News*.

MR. M'GREGOR'S FINANCIAL SCHEME.

Mr. J. M'Gregor has published, in a letter to his constituents, a detailed exposition of the retrenchments which he thinks may immediately be made in public expenditure, and of the way in which he would avail himself of the saving thus effected to relieve the tax-payers. His proposals are briefly as follows:—

The total expenditure of 1847 (after deducting £1,525,800 for Irish distress) was £57,704,614. Mr. M'Gregor is of opinion that, by certain arrangements, the expenditure of the year might be reduced to £52,400,000. Of this sum he allots £28,250,000 to pay the interest of the debt; and, in order to make the remaining £24,150,000 meet the remaining current expenses of the year, he proposes the following reductions:—Army, navy, and ordnance, from £18,500,000 to £14,250,000; civil list, from £393,800 to £390,000; other charges on the consolidated fund, from £2,319,530 to £2,200,000; miscellaneous services from £3,561,067 to £3,250,000; charges of collecting the revenue from £3,963,539 to £3,350,000; other payments out of the taxes in their progress to the Exchequer, from £763,926 to £710,000. The total proposed saving he states at £5,304,614, of which £4,150,000 is to be effected by reducing the expenditure on our defensive establishments.

The four ordinary sources of revenue upon which Mr. M'Gregor relies to raise the revenues required for his estimated expenditure are:—Custom, Excise (under one office with stamps), Post-office, and Crown lands. He would levy customs duties only on eight articles—tobacco, sugar (*at present duties*), distilled spirits (all kinds), wines (at duties adjusted for revenue), spices (all kinds), fruits (all kinds), tea (at 1s. per lb.), silk manufactures, and other articles of luxury (at an *ad valorem* duty). The revenue collected by the combined excise and stamp boards, he would have raised upon spirits and malt, licenses, stamps, and legacy and probate duties. He estimates the total return from customs, excise and stamps, post-office, and crown lands, at £41,000,000, thus leaving a deficit of £11,000,000. To raise this he would impose in lieu of the present tax of three per cent. upon all incomes, a "duty of five per cent upon the rents or profits of all realized property, whether funded, houses, lands, warehouses, docks, East India Stock, Bank Stock, and all stocks and shares whatever bought and sold in the market."

THE ARBITRATION MOVEMENT.—Large and highly respectable meetings have recently been held in favour of Mr. Cobden's intended motion for arbitration, at Shrewsbury and Chester, by Mr. E. Burritt, and the Rev. W. Stokes. At the former place the throng was so great that the meeting was compelled to adjourn to a larger room, and the beautiful Music Hall was speedily filled by the people. Mr. Stokes and Mr. O'Neil have also held very influential meetings at Smethwick, Bilston, Wolverhampton, Walsall, and Dudley. In every place the decision of the meeting has been unanimous and decided in favour of the movement, and the utmost readiness has been manifested to co-operate in giving it effect. Arrangements are in progress for similar meetings at Kidderminster, Bewdley, Stafford, Bridgnorth, &c.; and from the spirit of the different parties consulted, equally efficient demonstrations are anticipated.

THE LATE WEST RIDING ELECTION.

The *Eclectic Review* for this month contains an able article on the recent election. A very faithful history of the leading events which transpired in the Riding in connexion with the representation, from the accession of Lord Morpeth to the House of Peers to the declaration of the poll at Wakefield, is given by the writer; and the conduct of the various parties engaged in the struggle, but especially of the Liberals who supported Sir C. Eardley, and of the Whigs who held aloof or supported Mr. Denison, is discussed with manly candour and discrimination. The actual position of the great Liberal party at this time is also clearly described, and sound advice is given as to the best means of regaining its old predominance in the representation of the Riding. The following extract relative to the statistics of this election will be found interesting:—

Classifying the number in the Sheriff's return under the two heads of Manufacturing and Agricultural districts, we arrive at the following results:—

14 Agricultural Districts	{ Voted for Denison 7,003
	{ Voted for Eardley 2,787

Majority for Denison 4,216

12 Manufacturing Dist.	{ Voted for Eardley 9,028
	{ Voted for Denison 7,798

Majority for Eardley 1,230

Total Majority for Denison 2,986

We do not wish to say one word of harsh and unjust disparagement of the electors of the agricultural districts; but this we may say, and justly, that, as a class, they are half a century behind the electors of the towns in political intelligence; and as to political independence, it is a jest to talk of it. We have little else to do, in estimating the comparative number of Liberal and Tory voters in some 300 or 400 townships, out of the 656 in the Riding, than to ascertain the politics of the landlord; and we could select dozens of them—all the electors of which are farm occupiers,—in which, to a man, the vote is Tory or Liberal, just as is the landlord's. It is customary with the canvassers of such townships, in the event of a property passing from a Tory to a Liberal owner, or *vice versa*, to reverse the markings in their canvass-books, in accordance with the change of ownership.

Now, it is this class of voters who have returned Mr. Denison. The towns have rejected him by a majority of 1,230 out of 16,826 votes—the rural districts have elected him by a majority of 4,216, out of 9,790 votes!

Notwithstanding the strength of these rural votes, Mr. Denison would have been second on the poll, but for the desertion of certain Liberals. It is exceedingly difficult to say, exactly, how many reputed Liberals have voted for Mr. Denison. It is obvious that the proportion of unpolled electors on the entire register, cannot be applied to the respective number of Liberal and Tory electors, unless both parties have voted in equal ratios. Now we know positively that the number of neutrals amongst the Tory party has been at its minimum this election; and, on the other hand, that the neutrals amongst the Liberal party have been far above the usual proportion. We can then only make a proximate calculation. Estimating a variety of elements, and comparing a great diversity of data, we arrive at the conclusion that Mr. Denison is indebted to the votes of some 2,500 to 3,000 *soi-disant* Liberals for his return as member for the West Riding; leaving a neutral party of from 1,500 to 2,000 Liberals, who, if their fidelity to their principles may be held questionable, have not yet repudiated or betrayed them.

The writer further says:—"Now that the election is passed, we may state it as an almost demonstrable thing, that Mr. Roebuck, without suffering any disparagement in our opinion by the fact, would not have polled 8,000 votes. We say this advisedly." The following is wise counsel as to the course to be pursued by the Liberal party:—

The middle class of the West Riding have taken the leadership, and they may not shrink from its responsibilities. It has been the bane of the party to rely on aristocratic leaders for everything, so far as the county representation went, even to the minutiae of registering their votes. Not only must they now attend to this mere matter of business, but they must take the initiative on all public questions. We know there is a strong feeling in the minds of many intelligent Liberals, that the habits of the business man and of the public man are incompatible. We take leave emphatically to contradict this opinion! The contrary fact might be proved, without stepping out of the Riding, in hundreds of instances. No! It is not true that a man cannot mind his business as a merchant or a manufacturer, and mind public business; but it is true that thousands of intelligent men, acting upon this figment, hold aloof from all public business, and thus the few who do work are overburdened and injured, or worse—charlatans and demagogues take the lead. We wish we could impress on every mind the words of Cromwell, writing to his son, and giving him directions what to read, and for what end. "Study history, make yourself master of public matters, that you may make yourself useful to your country, which is the first duty of every man, and every man's proper business." Cromwell himself was an admirable example of the union of the thrift and shrewdness which makes a man "well to do" in the world, and of the public spirit which makes him the active and useful citizen; and this union of qualities is the desideratum of our day, and more especially amongst the rising and enterprising class of manufacturers.

PRIESTLEY'S CHAPEL REBUILT.—This day week the new chapel, which has just been erected by the Unitarian or by the Presbyterian congregation on the site of the old Millhill Chapel, in Park-row, Leeds, in which the celebrated Dr. Priestley was wont to officiate about a century ago, was opened for divine worship. The new chapel is a very handsome edifice, in the perpendicular style of architecture, and has cost about £7,000.

AFFAIRS OF CEYLON.

(From our Correspondent).

Colombo, Ceylon, Nov. 13, 1848.

Three months ago I sent you a short note on the universal dissatisfaction and partial rebellion in this colony occasioned by the imposition of new taxes. As I have ordered the *Overland Colombo Observer* to be sent to you for the last three months, you will be acquainted with the particulars. I mentioned then the desperate efforts made by certain parties to ascribe the rebellion to the *Observer*, in order to crush it, and, I am assured, to have an excuse for deporting, without the intervention of the courts of justice, its noble-minded proprietor and principal editor. But now, I am happy to say, these efforts have not only signally failed in their object, but have given the obnoxious paper an increased circulation and influence.

All the Indian press has discussed the causes of the rebellion, &c., and all the leading papers, both Liberal and Tory, in all the Presidencies, have pronounced severely against the Government and warmly in favour of the *Observer*.

The great crime of which the independent editor of the *Observer* was guilty, is no other than vigorously contending for a large reduction in all our useless establishments, instead of the imposition of new and unsuitable taxes. In addition to this, Dr. Elliott, the editor, is obnoxious to many on account of his opposition to all religious endowments, and persevering defence of the rights and interests of the natives against a few who denounce them as "black devils."

As a sample of things in the colonies, I may just mention some of the means employed to put down the *Observer* and ruin its editor. When the rebellion broke out, a paper was immediately circulated at the libraries and hotels in Kandy, calling upon all friends of peace and order to withdraw their subscriptions from the *Observer*. A few persons signed this paper; but the result was that three new subscribers were gained for every one lost. The next move was to circulate a document, ascribing the rebellion to the *Observer*, and calling upon the Government to suppress it, if not deport its editor. This did not succeed at all, for many who differed with Dr. Elliott in politics had some regard for his moral worth. This document was then changed into an expression of opinion that the *Observer* had caused the rebellion. Twenty-three persons signed this paper. The Doctor then, in order to give them an opportunity of proving this, instituted a civil action against them, when they all erased their signatures. It is supposed that a certain Puseyite chaplain and district judge originated this document to help the Government in making excuses for the state of the colony, and that many who signed it did so under influence and in ignorance of its import and purpose. The next move was to get the merchants and planters to approve of the proceedings of Government, and thus indirectly throw the responsibility of the rebellion on the *Observer*. The Chamber of Commerce met one morning and passed resolutions condemnatory of the new taxes. Some of the partisans of Government, alarmed at this, which was just before the *Overland* left with the despatches, got up another meeting in the evening, and, by the aid of two gentlemen who were not virtually members of the Chamber, rescinded the resolutions passed in the morning. In a few days, however, the Chamber of Merchants memorialized Earl Grey on the subject, in language more strongly condemnatory of the Government than ever the *Observer* had used. The planters and European inhabitants generally petitioned Parliament to the same effect. Sir Emerson Tennent next went around the island to induce the native population to address the Government in terms of loyalty, and approval of the new taxes; but this failed too. But all means were not exhausted yet. Money has been very scarce in the colony; two gentlemen, who were greatly pressed for some, went a few months before the rebellion to Dr. Elliott to borrow £200; the Doctor had none available at the time, but went to the Savings' Bank and borrowed in his own name and responsibility the amount for these gentlemen. The Governor got to know, after the rebellion, that the Doctor had borrowed £200 from the Savings' Bank, and ordered the managers to call it in immediately. Next, the Government ordered the Fiscal's sale advertisements not to be sent any more to the *Observer*. These have hitherto been sent to two papers of the largest circulation; the *Observer's* circulation is nearly as great as that of all the others put together. The lawyers, on the part of the sequestered properties, are now instituting proceedings against the Fiscal for not advertising in the paper of the widest circulation. Finding all general charges against the *Observer* of no avail, the last thing was to look up all the old numbers of the paper to get up a case of sedition, &c. It was found that several months before the rebellion a letter from an Englishman had been printed against the new taxes, and warning the Government not to drive the people to rebellion. It also advised the people to petition against them. This letter was translated into Singalese, for the benefit of the native population; the original and translation were printed in the same number of the *Observer*, and eighty

separate copies were printed for any one who wished to get one at the Observer Office. It was first affirmed that 30,000 of these had been secretly circulated in the interior, and had caused the rebellion. This fabrication again utterly failed. The Governor next sent for a Wesleyan missionary, known to be a bitter enemy of Dr. Elliott, and got him to retranslate this translation in the strongest language, so as to make it a seditious document, which was most willingly done. But the wilful perversion of the retranslation was so exposed, that the ruse fell to the ground. Last week the Government was obliged to withdraw three of the new taxes and modify the other.

Whenever anything occurs of interest to you or your readers here I will not fail to acquaint you of it.

Yours truly,

J. DAVIES,
Baptist Missionary.

PEOPLE'S INSTRUCTION SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.—A Birmingham correspondent, "F. Hine," writes:—"I saw an account in your last paper of a Working Man's Society at Cheltenham; I beg to send you a brief outline of a similar society in Birmingham, under the above title. This institution has been established several years, and will hold its annual meeting next Monday. It was established for the purpose of affording to the working classes a cheap means of acquiring knowledge. It consists of a Reading Room, open from ten till ten, which is supplied with three daily papers, a large number of weekly papers (your excellent one included), and several monthly publications. There is also a large and increasing library, containing many choice works. Lectures are delivered once a fortnight. Classes have been formed for those who like to join them. All these advantages may be had for one penny per week, or one shilling per quarter. Such a society is within the reach of every working man. There is no obstacle to prevent any man from joining. No party topic is allowed to be introduced. All men, of whatever sect or party, are allowed to avail themselves of its advantages; men meet there as men should meet—like brethren. All are agreed upon one question, that is—the importance of education. But this society, however, is not kept on without help; it occupies school rooms kindly lent by the body worshipping at New Meeting-street; it has therefore nothing to pay for rent, gas, or firing; it is given freely, besides a small donation every month. It has not received that support from the working men which it deserves, but I hope ere long that it will be self-supporting. Although I entertain different religious opinions from the body that originated the above society, yet, as a working man, I cannot but feel deeply grateful to them for enabling me to get that knowledge which otherwise is denied me. I will ask those who wish to see great principles recognised, intemperance and ignorance banished from our land, to form a few such institutions as this in every large town in the kingdom.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—AN EXAMPLE TO MINISTERS.—We have great pleasure in inserting the following copy of a handbill circulated in Camberwell, and of commending the example to the imitation of those who have at heart the welfare of the working classes:—

Working Men.—Free Discussion.—The above are invited to attend Four Meetings, which will be held at the British School-room, Leipsic-road, Camberwell, for the purpose of considering the following subjects:—Tuesday evening, Dec. 19, 1848, "How is the Comfort of a People to be best secured?"—Tuesday evening, Jan. 2, 1849, "Must a People be Moral in order to be Happy?"—Tuesday evening, Jan. 16, 1849, "What Lessons does History teach?"—Tuesday evening, Jan. 30, 1849, "The effects of Religion on a Community."—The chair will be taken on each evening at half-past seven o'clock, by Mr. Burnet, and the meetings will close at nine o'clock.—After the chairman's opening remarks, the subject of the evening will be open for free discussion by any person present.

MR. ROEBUCK AT BURY.—Owing to the continued illness of Mr. Walker, the member for Bury, whose malady is of a character precluding the hope of his being able to attend to his parliamentary duties for some time to come, it is in contemplation, upon his resignation, to invite Mr. J. A. Roebuck, the late member for Bath, to stand in the liberal interest. The annual *soirée* of the Mechanics' Institution at Bury having been fixed for Thursday evening, it was thought by the parties favourable to this project to afford a good opportunity of introducing that gentleman to the constituency, or a portion of them; and Mr. Roebuck was accordingly invited. Mr. J. Grundy having taken the chair, Mr. Roebuck was called upon, and received a most flattering reception. He spoke only for about 15 or 20 minutes, not touching upon politics, but confining himself solely to a notice of the advantages of mechanics' institutions. The honourable gentleman spoke of the pleasures derivable from a possession of knowledge—the resources which it afforded when all the pleasures but those of the mind failed—and the habits of selfreliance and industry which it induced. He concluded by paying a high compliment to Lord Derby, who has generously given the site for a building about to be erected by the Mechanics' Institute at Bury. It is rumoured that the Tories in Bury contemplate an invitation to a member of the Stanley family for the anticipated vacancy.

The prize for £100 for the best Essay on Juvenile Depravity, has been awarded to the Rev. Henry Worsley, rector of Easton, in Suffolk. The judges were the Rev. John Harris, D.D., the Rev. James Sherman, and the Rev. C. J. Vaughan, D.D.

COURT, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

The Court still remains at Windsor. Lord John Russell arrived at the Castle on Thursday, and was present at the most notable event of the week—the performance of *The Merchant of Venice* in "the Rubens Room" theatre, by a selected company of professional actors. Besides the Queen, Prince Albert, and the children, the audience included many visitors; amongst whom were the Dean of Windsor, the Provost of Eton; Dr. Hawtrey, &c.

PRINCE ALBERT has been pleased to appoint the Rev. Thomas Protheroe Chaplain to his Royal Highness at Osborne.

THE DECEASE OF LORD OXFORD took place on Friday evening, at his seat, Roehampton. The noble Earl had been ill for some considerable time. Lord Harley succeeds to the title. Lady Langdale, wife of the Master of the Rolls, is a daughter of the late Earl.

SIR AUGUSTUS FREDERIC D'ESTE died on Thursday morning. He was son of the late Duke of Sussex, by Lady Augusta Murray, daughter of the Earl of Dunmore, to whom his Royal Highness was married at Rome, 1793. Upon the death of the Duke in 1843, Sir Augustus preferred his claim to succeed to the titles and honours of his father. The House of Lords resolved that he had not established his claim.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE BARON D'ANDRIAN, Ambassador Extraordinary from the Germanic Confederation, has returned to Mivart's Hotel from Frankfurt.

THE CONSOLIDATED BOARD OF EXCISE, STAMPS, AND TAXES, is to consist of the following members:—Chairman, John Wood, Esq.; Deputy Chairman, John Thornton, Esq.; Commissioners, Hart Davis, Esq.; Thomas Harrison, Esq.; Henry T. Stephenson, Esq.; Charles John Herries, Esq.; Charles P. Rushworth, Esq.; Charles Pressly, Esq.; Alfred Montgomery, Esq.—*Observer*.

DEATH OF ALDERMAN JOHNSON.—Early on Saturday morning Mr. Alderman Johnson expired at his residence, Millbank, after an illness of some months' duration. The deceased, at the last general election, was a candidate for the representation of the City of London in Parliament, in the Conservative interest, but was defeated. Several candidates for the aldermanic gown are already in the field, amongst whom may be named Jeremiah Pilcher and John Laurie, Esqs., (late sheriffs). Mr. Hudson, M.P. for Sunderland, and Alderman of York, has also been mentioned.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE QUEEN'S NEW YEAR'S GIFTS AT WINDSOR.—The distribution of her Majesty's new year's gifts to 500 poor families of Windsor and Clewer took place yesterday morning, in the presence of the Queen, Prince Albert, the juvenile branches of the royal family, and the ladies and gentlemen of the royal household, in the new riding-school in the Home-park. These consisted of 500 4lb. loaves and 720lbs. of plum-pudding, 1,300lbs. of beef, 161 blankets, 3 scarlet cloaks, 1,222 yards of calico, and 628 yards of flannel. Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princesses Alice and Helena, occupied the Queen's closet, which commanded an uninterrupted view of the scene below.

DEATH OF LORD AUCKLAND.—The close of the old year has been signalized by the sudden death of a leading member of the Cabinet. The Earl of Auckland rose on Saturday morning, apparently in good health, at the Grange, in Hampshire, where he was spending his Christmas holidays with Lord Ashburton. He seemed to be in high health and spirits, and went out to enjoy the amusement of shooting. On a sudden the noble earl staggered and complained of severe illness, and before he could be conveyed to Lord Ashburton's residence, he was taken with a fit of apoplexy. An express was instantly despatched to the Admiralty, to apprise his lordship's sisters of the alarming fact. The Hon. Miss Eden and Dr. Locock, after a little delay as possible, proceeded by special train to Basingstoke, and hastened to the Grange, where the noble earl was found to be speechless and totally unconscious of what passed around him. Other symptoms were perceptible, and Dr. Locock gave it as his opinion that the case was a hopeless one. The doctor returned to town by the mail train on Sunday night, the Hon. Miss Frances Eden remaining at the Grange. The lamented earl continued in the same dangerous condition up to half-past seven o'clock on Monday morning, when he expired without having rallied or exhibiting the least consciousness of his alarming state. Lord Auckland occupied, successively, several important offices under Government. When Lord John Russell succeeded to office, his lordship was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty, which office he held at the time of his death. In 1835 he was Governor-General of India. It was while his lordship presided over the Government of India that the invasion of Afghanistan took place, but to what extent his lordship was answerable for that invasion is uncertain. It resulted in reverses which eventually led to its evacuation by the English forces. He is succeeded in the barony of Auckland—the original family title—by his only brother, the present Bishop of Sodor and Man, and late Vicar of Battersea, better known by his name of the Hon. and Rev. Robert Eden, who is in his 49th year.

LOUIS NAPOLEON'S LIVERY.—His servants' livery is precisely the same as that of the Emperor's—a green coat with gold buttons, black silk stockings and plush shorts. Owing to the great affluence of visitors two days of the week have been fixed upon as reception days.—*Morning Chronicle*.

LITERATURE.

THE PERIODICALS (JANUARY).

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW has this month more than the usual quantity of matter, and its excellence is proportionate to its bulk. The most attractive articles are those on historical and political topics; the subjects being, "Macaulay's History of England," "The Fairfax Correspondence," and the "West Riding Election." Mr. Macaulay's work is highly eulogized as one "which his countrymen will not willingly let die."

"He has made a startling addition to our literature, and has added to history the fascination of romance, without merging any of its graver and more useful qualities. . . . His pages breathe, his personages move before us. We catch the inspiration of the hour; see the passions which agitated the throne and the populace; feel the ground tremble beneath our feet, and understand the forces that produced the convulsions which history records. There are many passages in these volumes equal, in point of interest simply, with any to be found in the pages of Sir Walter Scott; and when, recovering from the fascination of a first perusal, we analyze and sift them, requiring judgment to pronounce on what imagination has revelled in, we are constrained, with slight exceptions, to admit that their truthfulness is equal to their beauty—that they are as severely accurate as they are surpassingly attractive."

The reviewer's historic sketches, with the illustrative extracts, will be read with no small pleasure. Still more interesting is the article on "The Fairfax Correspondence," one of a class of works which will assist in "rescuing from oblivion or obloquy the mighty leaders of the party to which England owes its liberties." Charles I. is thus severely handled by the writer:—

"Whatever Charles I. may have looked, he was in character fierce and vindictive, false of heart, intemperate of tongue, and inaccessible to those sweet touches of humanity which partly redeem the faults of some bad men, and make us almost love them in spite of their imperfections. But all Charles's sympathies were for the wicked. . . . Could any man, with a grain of Christian meekness and charity in his heart, have endeavoured, as he did, to prevail with the judges to revive the use of torture, in order to gratify his vengeance against a particular offender? And when the sons of a patriot, who had been assassinated through the instrumentality of malaria and confinement in the Tower, petitioned for their father's body, that they might lay it piously by the remains of his ancestors, could any man of common humanity have refused the request, carried his vindictiveness beyond the grave, and commanded the great man's bones to be interred in the prison where he died?"

The writer of the article on the "West Riding Election" is evidently well acquainted with the entire history, not only of the late, but of former contests in that important district; but as we have elsewhere quoted freely, we will not describe here what will no doubt be very generally read. A slight notice of Somerville's "National Wealth Tracts" describes Louis Blanc as "one of the most calumniated men in Europe," and vindicates him from the charge brought against him by Mr. Cobden, of being the author of the Paris insurrection, by teaching men that a government can feed and employ the people. "Mary Barton; a Tale of Manchester Life," is a review of a powerfully-written narrative of the politico-economical class. The paper on "The Literature of Gothic Architecture," however excellent it may be in a professional point of view, is monotonous in its style, and marked by an unpleasant mannerism. Such sentences as the following are scarcely calculated to popularize art:—

"The universally imitative and scenic system is, in part, the offshoot of that general absence of the primary constructive principle, as a guiding rule of art, already noticed. It results in the utter negation of that most essential secondary characteristic of architecture proper, architecture actual and spontaneous: that of generic propriety."

The review of Dr. Davidson's "Introduction to the New Testament," which is warmly commended, alluding to the circumstance that some of the most insidious attacks on Christianity are made under cover of a respectful treatment of the Sacred Volume, asks whether our religious teachers, without exception or deviation, are to go on "preaching, expounding, and exhorting, as though there were nothing in the cultivated mind of England but ignorance of the gospel;" and to leave this wide field to men whom they distrust as enemies to the truth. Tyndale's "Island of Sardinia" is the subject of the remaining paper.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE opens with an article bearing the suggestive title of "The Year of Revolutions." It is an elaborate and able review, but lugubrious in the extreme. Toryism is clothed in a philosophic and seductive garb; Liberalism, on the contrary, is treated as the sure forerunner of national decay. Happily, however, the writer can console himself with the reflection, that "the great mercantile class have suffered so dreadfully under the effect of their own measures, that their power, either for good or for evil, has been essentially abridged. The Colossus which, for a quarter of a century, has bestrode the nation, has been shaken by the earthquake which itself had prepared." "French Conquerors and Colonists" describes the contest in Algeria as one in which France has decimated her best troops, and de-

teriorated her ancient fame, whilst pursuing, with unworthy ferocity and ruthlessless, a feeble and inoffensive foe. The details are interesting, but are of too horrible a character to be read with pleasure. "The White Nile" is a lengthened notice of a book which, fifty years since, "would have earned for its author the sneers of critics and the reputation of a Munchausen." The following passage will serve to quicken the imagination of our readers when they next peruse the narrative of the plagues of Egypt:—

"Prodigious swarms of birds and water-fowl find their nourishment in the White Stream, and upon its swampy banks there is no lack of nourishment for the feathered tribes. Water and earth are prolific of vermin. Millions of glowworms glimmer in the rushes, the air resounds with the shrill cry of myriads of grasshoppers, and with the croaking of countless frogs; but for the birds, which act as scavengers and vermin destroyers, those shores would be uninhabitable. The scorching sun fecundates the sluggish waters and rank fat marsh, causing a never-ceasing birth of reptiles and insects. Monstrous fish, and snakes of all sizes, abound."

"Arts and Artists in Spain" has some pleasantly-written sketches. That strange and now extinct animal, the Dodo, has a whole and, along article to itself, under the title of "The Dodo and its Kindred," which, for its elaborate painstaking to answer the questions, "What was the Dodo? When was the Dodo? Where is the Dodo?" will delight all enthusiastic lovers of natural history. "Memoirs of Kirkaldy of Grange," is a sketch of one of Queen Mary's most devoted adherents. The "idiot Darnley" is described as "a low-minded, fickle, and imperious fool—vicious as a colt, capricious as a monkey, and stubborn as an Andalusian mule." There is also a tale entitled, "The Sword of Honour;" and Sir L. Bulwer's "The Caxtons."

We hope to return to the periodicals next week, and to take up those which we are now obliged to leave unnoticed.

Baptism—with Reference to its Import and Modes. By EDWARD BEECHER, D.D. New York: John Wiley, 161, Broadway, and 13, Paternoster-row, London.

As this work touches controversial ground, and ground moreover which is delicate, we can best serve the public by giving a short epitome of its contents:—

Chap. I. The Import of *Baptizmo*. Reasons for engaging anew in the discussion. 1. Statement of the case and principles of investigation. 2. Causes of the disregard of these principles, and the false positions to which this disregard has given rise. 3. Statement of the position to be proved. 4. Doctrine of probabilities. 5. Probabilities as to *Baptizmo*. 6. Probabilities from the subject. 7. Philological principles. 8. A question about purifying. 9. Accordance of this view with the prophecies and language of the Old Testament. 10. Baptism of water and of the Holy Spirit contrasted by John. 11. Baptism of the Holy Spirit. 12. Sacrificial sense of *Baptizmo*.

Chap. II.—The Subject continued. 13. Mosaic purifications. 14. Jewish purifications. 15. Purification by the ashes of a heifer. 16. *Baptizmo* means to purify. 17. Relation to the system of writers. 18. The Fathers. 19. Baptismal Regeneration. 20. Denial of water baptism. 21. Patristic usage.

This will give a correct notion of the subjects of the first part, which was republished in England, and gave rise to Dr. Carson's first reply.

The second part (our analysis must be more summary) refers to patristic practice—baptism of blood—opinions of modern Greeks—baptism of the Holy Spirit—of fire—of tears, clinic baptism, &c. &c.—the interpretation of Rom. vi. 3, 4, and Col. ii. 12, largely developed.

The next part consists of Dr. Beecher's first reply to Dr. Carson, in reference to his principles and position, and also to his attack on the biblical and patristic argument.

The fourth and last part is a notice of Dr. Carson's second reply.

As the *Nonconformist* has, as a journal, no wish to meddle with doctrinal difficulties, we can only say that the work is elaborate and careful, and appears to us not to violate a Christian tone and temper.

History—Philosophically Illustrated from the Fall of the Roman Empire to the French Revolution. By G. MILLER, D.D., M.R.I.A. Third Edition. In 4 volumes. Vol. I. London: Bohn, York-street, Covent-garden.

THIS work, though probably not of the same authority as many of the series brought out by this enterprising publisher, has considerable merit, and will be useful as a reference. But we reserve our opinion for the present. We can speak better of it when it shall be completed.

The Reviewer's acknowledgments are due for the following volumes, which he is compelled to notice very summarily, that he may make a clean table for a new year:—*The Child's Companion and Juvenile Instructor*, 1848. Religious Tract Society.—Attractive and varied. This little book is its own recommendation. The same praise is due to the *Bible Class Magazine* (Sunday-school Union), which has much merit.—*The Sunday school Union Magazine* (Sunday-school Union), will, within its own neutral limits, be of service to teachers.

It contains useful information, and valuable suggestions.—*The Teacher's Offering for 1848* (Ward and Co.), is intelligent and useful. The articles entitled "The Bohemian Reformation," and "Examples of the Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties," especially the last, are very interesting.—*Original Tales, or True Stories of my Little Grandchildren*. London: Ward and Co., Paternoster-row.—This is a book to make a little child's heart leap within him; and it has neither false sentiment nor nonsense; it is amusing, narrative, and important truth.—*The Child's Own Book*. Published by Richard Davis.—Let children read from this volume the papers entitled "Something from Somebody," and say how they like them.—*Catherine Howard*. Religious Tract Society.—Illustrative of the way of salvation.—*How to Spend a Week Happily*. London: Darton and Co., Holborn-hill.—We think there are in this book some lessons well told.—*Principles of Protestantism considered with a view to Unity*. James Darling, Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn.—The author advocates Christian union—on the basis of the communion of the Church of Rome!!!—*A Biblical Cyclopædia; or, Dictionary of Eastern Antiquities, Geography, &c. &c.* By JOHN EADIE, LL.D. Griffin and Co.—We are sorry to compress our notice of this really valuable work into a corner. It is the best dictionary of the kind we have yet seen.—*The Jubilee of the Methodist New Connexion*. John Bakewell.—In the course of a week or two we hope to be able to give this book larger notice.—*Protestant Discussion, held at Hammersmith, between the Rev. John Cumming, D.D., and Daniel French, Esq.*—We think this a book of uncommon interest; it has greatly raised our opinion of Dr. Cumming.—*Notes on the Scripture Lessons for 1848*. Sunday-school Union.—We cannot commend these notes.—*The Fairy Knoll*. By Mrs. SHERWOOD. London: H. K. Lewis, Gower-street.—Full of talent and Christian feeling.—*Curiosities of Animal Life*. Religious Tract Society.—We recommend this book to parents. It is full of useful information.

We have only time to notice the titles of the following pamphlets:—*The Bible Revised*. Parts I. and II. London: Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row.—*The People's Charter; a Lecture*, by SAMUEL KYDD.—*Monarcho-Republicanism*. London: Effingham Wilson.—*A Budget of Two Taxes only; a Stamp and Property-tax*. London: Effingham Wilson.—*Homes for the Working Classes*. J. K. Starling.—*Home at Sea; or, the Emigrant Instructed how to make his Voyage Comfortable*. London: Effingham Wilson.—*Democracy; or, the Two Commandments*. By E. F. SEWEL. London: Charles Gilpin.—*The Sign of the Kingdom of God*. By J. B. BROWN, B.A.—*Emigrant's Guide to New South Wales*. By J. C. BYRNE. London: Effingham Wilson.—*Fleming on the Papacy; with Two Additional Discourses*. (Very cheap edition.) London: Ward and Co., Paternoster-row.—*The Happy Home*. By the Author of "Life in Earnest." London: David Bogue, Fleet-street.—With some exceptions, we commend this book to the notice of the masses.

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

MR. MACAULAY'S "HISTORY" is out of print. 3,000 copies—the number of the first edition—are already sold; and a second edition—it is said an improved one—is already in the press. The rumour runs that the author has sold his two volumes for ten years, to the Messrs. Longman, for an annuity of £600 for that period. If poetry be down in market value, history is, it seems, up. "The Row" and Albemarle-street would now probably return "Paradise Lost" without looking at it: so that Simmons's £5 was, after all, a liberal sum for an epic poem, when we contrast 1848 with 1667. Hume made very little by his "History;" but Smollett made £2,000 in a very short time—and his work is said to have sold to the then amazing extent of 10,000 copies. It was time that history should have a turn. Mr. Hallam's historical works have, it is true, sold well; but Carte struggled hopelessly against want—and Sir Harris Nicolas, whose whole life was dedicated unremittingly to the illustration of English history, has just passed from amongst us in circumstances too painful to describe. Our writers should learn, however (and there are examples enough already to have taught them), that the mere keeping together of facts, the dry display, as it were, of antiquarian diligence, has but slender charms for the general reader. The labours of Carte and Nicolas are—like the drawings of great masters—of use only to students. The multitude look for colour and composition, and for that skill which can make "even dry bones live." Let us add to this pleasing account of the book market that 18,000 copies of Mr. Dickens's Christmas story were sold on the first day of publication.—*Athenæum*.

PEPYS AND HIS WIFE.—May 11th, 1667.—My wife being dressed this day in fair hair did make me so mad that I spoke not one word to her, though I was ready to burst with anger. After that Creed and I into the park, and walked, a most pleasant evening, and so took coach, and took up my wife, and in my way home discovered my trouble to my wife for her white locks, swearing several times, which I pray God forgive me for, and bending my

first that I would not endure it. She, poor wretch, was surprised with it, and made me no answer all the way home; but there we parted, and I to the office late, and then home, and without supper to bed, vexed. May 12th.—Lord's Day.—Up, and to my chamber, to settle some accounts there, and by and by down comes my wife to me in her nightgown, and we began calmly, that, upon having money to lace her gown for second mourning, she would promise to wear white locks no more in my sight, which I, like a severe fool, thinking not enough, begun to except against, and made her fly out to very high terms and cry, and in her heat told me of keeping company with Mrs. Knipp, saying that if I would promise never to see her more—of whom she hath more reason to suspect than I had heretofore of Pemberton—she would never wear white locks more. This vexed me, but I restrained myself from saying anything, but I do think never to see this woman—at least, to have her here no more; and so all very good friends as ever. My wife and I bethought ourselves to go to a French house to dinner, and so inquired out Monsieur Robins, my perriwig-maker, who keeps an ordinary, and in an ugly street in Covent Garden, did find him at the door, and so we in; and in a moment almost had the table covered, and clean glasses, and all in the French manner, and a mess of pottage first, and then a piece of *boeuf à la mode*, all exceeding well seasoned, and to our great liking: at least it would have been anywhere else but in this bad street, and in a perriwig-maker's house; but to see the pleasant and ready attendance that we had, and all things so desirous to please, and ingenious in the people, did take me mightily. Our dinner cost us six shillings. Walked over the fields to Kingsland, and back again; a walk, I think, I have not taken these twenty years; but puts me in mind of my boy's time, when I boarded at Kingstown, and used to shoot with my bows and arrows in these fields. A very pretty place it is, and little did any of my friends think I should come to walk in these fields in this condition and in the state that I am.—*Diary of Pepys*.

THE NORTHERN COUNTIES ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY YEARS SINCE.—A large part of the country beyond Trent was, down to the eighteenth century, in a state of barbarism. Physical and moral causes had occurred to prevent civilization from spreading to that region. The air was inclement; the soil was generally such as required skilful and industrious cultivation; and there could be little skill or industry in a tract which was often the theatre of war, and which, even when there was nominal peace, was constantly desolated by bands of Scottish marauders. Before the union of the two British crowns, and long after that union, there was as great a difference between Middlesex and Northumberland as there now is between Massachusetts and the settlements of those squatters who, far to the west of the Mississippi, administer a rude justice with the rifle and the dagger. In the reign of Charles the Second, the traces left by ages of slaughter and pillage were still distinctly perceptible, many miles south of the Tweed, in the face of the country and in the lawless manners of the people. There was still a large class of moss-troopers, whose calling was to plunder dwellings and to drive away whole herds of cattle. It was found necessary, soon after the restoration, to enact laws of great severity for the prevention of these outrages. The magistrates of Northumberland and Cumberland were authorized to raise bands of armed men for the defence of property and order; and provision was made for meeting the expense of these levies by local taxation. The parishes were required to keep bloodhounds for the purpose of hunting the freebooters. Many old men, who were living in the middle of the eighteenth century, could well remember the time when those ferocious dogs were common. Yet, even with such auxiliaries, it was often found impossible to track the robbers to their retreats among the hills and morasses; for the geography of that wild country was very imperfectly known. Even after the accession of George III., the path over the fells from Borrowdale to Ravenglas was still a secret carefully kept by the dalesmen, some of whom had probably in their youth escaped from the pursuit of justice by that road. The seats of the gentry and the larger farm-houses were fortified. Oxen were penned at night beneath the overhanging battlements of the residence, which was known by the name of the peel. The inmates slept with arms at their sides. Huge stones and boiling water were in readiness to crush and scald the plunderer who might venture to assail the little garrison. No traveller ventured into that country without making his will. The judges on circuit, with the whole body of barristers, attorneys, clerks, and serving men, rode on horseback from Newcastle to Carlisle, armed, and escorted by a strong guard under the command of the sheriffs. It was necessary to carry provisions, for the country was a wilderness which afforded no supplies. The spot where the cavalcade halted to dine, under an immense oak, is not yet forgotten. The irregular vigour with which criminal justice was administered shocked observers whose life had been passed in more tranquil districts. Juries, animated by hatred, and by a sense of common danger, convicted housebreakers and cattle stealers with the promptitude of a court-martial in a mutiny; and the convicts were hurried by scores to the gallows. Within the memory of some who are still living, the sportsman who wandered in pursuit of game to the sources of the Tyne, found the heaths round Keeldar Castle peopled by a race scarcely less savage than the Indians of California; and heard, with surprise, the half-naked women chanting a wild measure, while the men, with brandished dirks, danced a war-dance.—*Macaulay's History of England*.

A CHINESE WEDDING IN HIGH LIFE.—We have received the following interesting account of a Chinese wedding, as taken down from the description of Esau Ackum, an intelligent young Chinaman in the employ of Messrs. Thomas Labrey, Scholes, and Co., tea dealers, Newall's Buildings, Manchester:—"Presuming that the wedding is one of high rank, and the parties but slightly acquainted, when the gentleman thinks it high time to take unto himself a wife, without further delay he proceeds to the house of the maiden's father. The first question naturally presented to his mind is made known to the old man, and the purport of it being already well circulated through the country, is merely a matter of form; viz. 'What is the sum you require for your daughter?' £100 is asked, and given at once, with this understanding, that, after the courtship, if it should not prove satisfactory, the money should be returned. In the course of a few days, the parents of the young gentleman, as well as himself, are invited to the house of his intended. The strict observance of all religious rites is particularly adhered to on this trying occasion, for trying, indeed, it may be called. One circumstance is worthy of notice. If any pot or earthen vessel is cracked or broken during their stay in the house, it is considered a bad omen, and one that is never disregarded. If the gentleman, therefore, hears anything very unpleasant of the lady, or thinks he will be better without her, he generally manages to break his teacup—by accident, of course. All going on quiet, however, the young man departs, leaving his parents to conclude the bargain; for you must not suppose the Chinese maiden is too easily won. Nay, far from it. Six months is the time fixed for the young people to wait, and at the expiration of the time imagine the surprise of the lady when she is informed that her intended husband has sent her wedding clothes; these, carried in procession by his servants, in huge baskets, together with an immense jar of arrack, of the most superior description—[this beverage is not very unlike our English cherry brandy, and is a liquor of which the Chinese are very fond];—two dozen fowls, two dozen duck eggs, and two legs of pork, are sent for the lady's own use. The most important part of all, however, is the written promise that he will be at her service the third day after-ward. This promise is never broken but by death,—or the Chinese loses caste. It is usual for the lady, on this intelligence, to seclude herself from all society; even her mother is debarred from intercourse with her, and she weeps incessantly day and night. The evening before the fatal day draws nigh, when another but still more handsome present arrives for the parents of the betrothed. This consists principally of cakes and arrack, but sufficient to satisfy the wants of one hundred men for one day. With these are a beautiful ring and a pair of bracelets for the bride. This present is always accepted, and a present returned by the bride herself; this is rather unique, and implies her wish to be useful to him, as the articles are always more useful than ornamental. A sash, similar to those worn by the Chinese in England, a fan, two pens, and Indian ink, are generally to be found among the rest of the articles thus sent. The lady having dressed in her bridal clothes, is carried through the streets by four young men—her brothers, if she has any. A large procession follows them, bearing flags and banners, and a band playing the most delightful music. After being seen by all, she returns home. The morrow arrives, and the gentleman, after paying his vows to his Joss, and offering the usual oblations, hastens to his intended, whom he still finds at her devotions. Instead of going to bring her himself, he sends his servants, who conduct her, without much ceremony, into the presence of her lord and master. She is without her veil, and, as it is only the second time he has seen her at all, we should be apt to fancy he would, at least, treat her with civility. But, no! As soon as she is seated, he walks up to her, and strikes her on the head with the fan, as hard as he can. This is the ceremony of marriage; all the guests are present; and if this insult is resented in the slightest degree by the lady, she is immediately set down as unamiable, and not likely to make an obedient wife. The guests now make themselves as comfortable as possible, and eat and drink as much as they can, for the astonishing space of one entire week; when the parents, having become pretty well tired of feeding so vast a number, refuse to give anything more, they all depart. This is not, however, the signal for the gentleman and lady to retire; far from it; they never leave the room in which they have so strangely become one for life, for two or three weeks. They now (that is in two or three days) go to the house of the gentleman's father, where they live all together until the house becomes too small for them. Then the parents remove to another house, and so on, leaving each one in turn to their children successively, until they are no longer able to move about; and are buried at the expense of the child that is left, or who was last married.—*Manchester Paper.*

GLEANINGS.

M. Guizot has written, in London, a work entitled, "De la Démocratie en France," which is announced for publication in Paris next month.

A Jersey paper says, that no fewer than four hundred married couples have been separated *quant aux biens*, by the Royal Court of Jersey, during the last ten years.

Large and numerous arrivals of provisions and grain have lately taken place from the United States of America.

Considerate persons have great pleasure in paying tradesmen's bills early; and by this means they render

valuable assistance to an industrious class of persons, especially those who are struggling with a limited capital, to prevent insolvency, and support their families.

The *Tipperary Free Press* says:—"The Marchioness of Sligo, now in Cheltenham, has performed astonishing cures by her mesmerism treatment."

A Roman caricature represents the Pope as a *Papa gallo* in a cage, with Ferdinand as harlequin, grinding a barrel organ, and exclaiming that his parrot already sings in tune with him.

Mr. Macaulay has adopted the notion that Archbishop Cranmer was "unscrupulous in his dealings, zealous for nothing, bold in speculation; a coward and a time-server in action; a placable enemy, and a lukewarm friend."

In America, a patent has been taken out for an improved mode of warming railway passenger trains, by a combination of flues, connected by elastic and flexible hose, with openings and registers in the bottom of the carriages.

The *New Era* (St. Vincent, West Indies) asserts that though the law courts in England are 500 years behind the times, they are perfection to what they are in the West Indies.

The *Démocratie Pacifique* mentions the gathering of a great crowd in the Rue Vivienne, attracted by the following sign:—"Channet, tailor to his Imperial Highness Prince Louis Napoleon." It was afterwards taken down.

If report speaks correctly, the *Morning Herald* will be speedily absorbed into the *Morning Chronicle*.

AN INDUSTRIOUS EDITOR.—Wright, of the *Chronotype*, in a dissertation on the tariff, thus bears testimony to his love of work in general:—"We are the friend of industry. We work in our way—write editorials—split wood—go to market—tend babies—wash pots, kettles, and clothes—bake apples, meat, bread, and dough—face orators and editors generally."—*American Paper.* [We are glad of the opportunity of offering our meed of praise to the *Boston Chronotype*, which is one of the ablest, as well as one of the most hearty and amusing American newspapers we have met with.]

The Metropolitan Counties and General Life Assurance Company offer to insure parties travelling by railway at 10s. for every £100 by single payments; so that the representatives of any person killed by railroad accident will secure the amount assured.

A legal gentleman, who paid his addresses to the daughter of a tradesman, was forbidden the house, on which he sent in a bill of £93 13s. 4d. for two hundred and seventy-five attendances, advising on family affairs.

In a lecture on the Peace Movement in Chester, Mr. Elihu Burritt said:—"Iceland and Norway have preserved peace between their respective countries by arbitration alone, for 600 years; and by the same just and rational method the Helvetic Union preserved peace among its different members for more than 500 years."

SALE OF A PREACHER.—The Rev. Peter Roberts, a Methodist preacher from Indiana, was sold recently on the Court-house steps at Louisville, for seventy-five dollars and a half!

On the 25th of May, 1846, Louis Napoleon Buonaparte made his escape from Ham. On the very same day, Mr. Smith O'Brien was discharged from the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, after twenty-four days' imprisonment. In December, 1848, Louis Napoleon is President of the French Republic, and Mr. Smith O'Brien under sentence of death.

RAILWAY POST-OFFICE.—Passengers arriving at the Rugby station are not generally aware that a letter-box has been fixed in the window of the ticket-collector's room, under the colonnade, on the "up" side. Letters posted here by nine o'clock in the evening will be forwarded the same night to the metropolis and all parts of the country without any extra charge.

COLDS.—Young ladies should take care not to sit near the piano; for it is a well-known fact that that instrument has caused more dreadful colds than all the thin shoes and draughts in the world. The most beautiful creatures, who were perfectly well and laughing the minute before, have no sooner approached Grand Broadwood than they have been suddenly seized with a soar throat, and have lost in a minute the use of their voice. This complaint is less taking as the young lady grows older, and rarely has any effect in a family where there are several sisters.—*Punch's Almanack.*

BIRMINGHAM FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—The following appears in the *Daily News*:—"Sir,—North Warwickshire is won. We have just purchased about 70,000 yards of fine building land at 1s. 7d. per yard, which will be divided among about 270 members, giving each a vote for the county. Land very inferior to this, and more distant, is letting at 2d. and 3d. per yard on building leases; and our surveyor, Mr. John Fellows, of unquestionable eminence, has risked his reputation that our land will be let at 3d., 4d., and 5d. per yard—the very worst part, you see, is worth 3d. per yard. This is the way to 'extend the suffrage' and 'win counties.' We have given 'freeholds' to nearly 500 working men in sixteen months. Newdegate and Spooner will have to make room for George Dawson and Joseph Sturge. When will the time come when theory shall vanish, and practice take its place? What are the leaders of the reform party doing, that they do not join this movement to 'win counties?' West Yorkshire is neutralized through apathy, and it is more than threatened to be taken by the Tory party. Was the battle so light, the cost so cheap, and the victory so fading, that no effort is to be made to maintain the field? Up, ye men of influence, power, and station, and lead the van. Millions of working men are willing to 'qualify and win counties,' but want some able hand to point the way. We here have demonstrated the ease and the cheapness of 'freeholds,' and we call upon the Liberals in every county to lose no time, but immediately set to, and form 'freehold land societies,' and, in my soul, I believe that not a

single county division in this empire but could, by the next general election, return candidates who would, to a man, support Hume's motion, and Cobden's plan of a reduction of the enormous expenses of the country, and every other measure of an enlightened and liberal policy.—James Taylor, jun., Birmingham, Dec. 22."

[Advertisement.]—**GALVANISM.**—The following is extracted from the *Court Journal* of January 29:—"It is now about four years since we informed our readers, it was to be regretted galvanism was not more extensively used as a remedial agent. We have every reason to believe that our advice was attended to; for in a comparatively short time, Mr. Halse's residence was crowded with the *élite* of fashion, and their less fortunate fellow-sufferers; and we feel confident, judging from the astonishing remedial effects it has produced on ourselves, after all kinds of medicine and hydropathy had failed to impart any benefit, that the public will thank us for our recommendation. We were delighted to notice, a short time since, that Mr. Halse was patronized by the Lord Bishop of London and Sir Charles Clark, his lordship's physician. Mr. Halse's great reforms in the galvanic apparatus, and his improved methods of application justly entitle him to rank as the head of his profession. We again recommend our readers to give galvanism a fair trial. Mr. Halse's residence is at 23, Brunswick-square, London."

BIRTH.

Dec. 27, Mrs. J. H. WILLIAMS, of Leicester, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 23, at Tredegar, by the Rev. W. Williams, in the presence of Mr. J. Lewis, registrar, the Rev. EVAN JONES (late of Tredegar), to RACHY, fifth daughter of the late Rev. W. LEWIS, of Tredegar.

Dec. 27, at Union-street Chapel, Brighton, by the Rev. J. N. Goulty, the Rev. SAMUEL JOSEPH SMITH, B.A. of Enfield, Middlesex, to MARY CROUCHER, eldest daughter of W. PENFOLD, Esq. of Brighton.

Dec. 28, in Princes-street Chapel, Norwich, by the father of the bride, JANE ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. ALEXANDER, to SAMUEL NEWTON DUFF, Esq., of Longwood-house, Toperoff, Norfolk.

Dec. 28, in Princes-street Chapel, Norwich, by the father of the bride, HARRIET, third daughter of the Rev. J. ALEXANDER, to HENRY BLAKE MILLER, Esq., of Norwich, solicitor.

Dec. 29, at Creden-lane Chapel, High Wycombe, by the Rev. J. E. Judson, of Lindfield, brother of the bride, Mr. RICHARD BAXTER BLACHE, of Bisle, to MARY ANNE, daughter of the Rev. W. JUDSON, of High Wycombe.

Dec. 29, at Ridgmont Church, by the Rev. B. C. Smith, Mr. THOMAS LINNELL, of Penny Stratford, to SARAH JANE, only daughter of J. COOKE, Esq., of Broxborough Manor-house, Ridgmont, Beds.

DEATHS.

Nov. 21, in Toronto, Upper Canada, ELEANOR, wife of Mr. R. CORRIGAN, jun., late of Charlemont, county Armagh, and daughter of the late Mr. W. Bewglass, of Killyman, Moy, county Tyrone.

Dec. 16, of scarlet fever, HENRY SAMUEL, in his 3rd year; on the 19th, SARAH MARY, aged 4 years; and on the 23rd, CATHERINE SARAH, in her 8th year, eldest daughter: children of H. S. JOHNSON, Esq., of Peckham-rye.

Dec. 16, at Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, in her 75th year, Mrs. MARY PEARCE, widow of the late Mr. John Pearce, of Evesham, for many years a consistent member of the Baptist church in that place.

Dec. 23, at his father's residence, aged 3 years and 7 months ALFRED HASLAM MEDCALF, second son of Mr. E. Medcalf, of Lower Tooting; having survived his brother only seven months.

Dec. 24, at Peckham, of malignant scarlet fever, aged 10 years, ALEXANDER, only son of the Rev. A. STRONACH, missionary of the London Missionary Society at Amoy, China.

Dec. 24, passed peacefully to her rest, deeply and deservedly lamented by her bereaved family and attached friends, MARY ANNE, the beloved wife of Mr. M. CHILD, builder, of Petersfield, and daughter of Mrs. Wade, of Beconsfield, Bucks.

Dec. 25, at his residence, No. 13, Wilmington-square, in his 79th year, Mr. SAMUEL MILLS, of No. 11, Crane-court, Fleet-street.

Dec. 26, after a long and painful affliction, borne with Christian fortitude, ANNE, the beloved wife of Mr. J. CHAPPELL, Baptist minister, Long Parish, Hants.

Dec. 27, at his residence, Cliff-house, Dronfield, Derbyshire, aged 66, the Rev. DAVID CLARK.

Dec. 27, at Reading, aged 68, Miss ELIZABETH PAYTON JONES, daughter of the Rev. T. Jones, formerly minister of Lady Glenorchy's Chapel, Edinburgh.

Dec. 27, in her 78th year, ELIZABETH, relict of the late J. BUTLER, Esq., of Roy-ton.

Dec. 28, at the house of his son-in-law, the Rev. T. Fison, B.A., of Romsey, Hants, the Rev. ANDREW RITCHIE, for more than forty years the respected minister of the Independent Congregation, Wrentham, Suffolk.

Dec. 30, aged 15th months, EDITH MARGARET, infant daughter of Mr. C. REED, of Hackney.

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The tendency of the English Stock Market has been altogether upward during the past week, and the fluctuation has been very little. Indeed, so great is confidence now, that the rupture in the Cabinet of Louis Napoleon, and the fall of the French Funds on Monday had no influence in depressing the market. The favourable reports concerning the revenue, and the general abundance of money, has tended greatly towards keeping up prices, which now are as high as at the beginning of the last year: The quotations, at the close of business on the Exchange this evening stood as follows:—

Three per Cent. Consols, 88 to 1. Bank Stock, 190 to 192. Reduced Threes were 88. Three-and-a-quarter per Cents., 88½ to 1; Long Annuities, 8 11-16; India Stock, 239 to 240; India Bonds, 36s. to 39s. premium. Exchequer Bills, 40s. to 43s. premium. South Sea Stock was done at 96½.

We quote from a contemporary the following table of the fluctuations in the prices of Stock during the year 1848, it possesses considerable interest:—

	Highest.	Lowest.	Difference.
Bank Stock.....	202	180	22
Reduced Annuities.....	90½	80	10½
Consols.....	90	79½ to 80	10½
New Three-and-a-quarter per Cents.....	91	81½	9½
Exchequer Bills.....	53s. pm.	4s. pm.	39s.
Indian Bonds.....	45s.	Par	45s.
India Stock.....	245	227	18

The Foreign Market is still improving, and all kind of securities are steady. The following have been the variations in the prices of Foreign Funds during the year that has passed—what a wreck of fortune must it have proved to many!

	Highest.	Lowest.
Spanish Five per Cents.....	22½	9½
Ditto Three per Cents.....	33½	17½
Portuguese Four per Cents.....	27½	13
Mexican.....	25½	14
Peruvian.....	51½	20
Brazilian.....	86½	55½
Austrian.....	101	45
Russian.....	111½	72
Dutch Four per Cents.....	86½	54

The Railway Market has been very firm, and prices have considerably advanced. In another column we give a tabular statement of the closing prices of the principal shares this evening, from which the actual advance may be seen. The larger companies have been most favoured, but it will be noted that all, in a greater or less degree, have experienced some improvement. In every class of investments the year '49 begins very favourably—may it so continue.

The amount of railway calls during the past year has been about £33,000,000, or nearly ten millions less than in 1847.

The highest prices of shares during the past year was in January last, when North-Western ranged from 190 to 222; South-Western from 60½ to 66, and Great Western from 121 to 137. The lowest prices were on the 24th October, when North-Western were 99½ to 101, and the rest in proportion.

The firm of John Thomas, Son, and Lefevre, in the Russian trade, has paid a final dividend, making 20s. in the pound. Messrs. James, Nephews, and Co., of Manchester, have likewise paid in full, with interest from the date of their suspension. Mr. Robert McClelland, of Ireland (linen trade) has stopped.

The market for Corn on Monday was firm, at previous prices. The accounts from the provinces are very favourable.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

BRITISH.	Price.	FOREIGN.	Price.
Consols.....	89½ 89½	Belgian.....	74 76½
Do. Account.....	89½ 89½	Brazil.....	— 20
3 per Cent. Reduced.....	89½ 89½	Venezuelan Equador.....	66 69
3½ per Cent. New.....	89½ 89½	Danish.....	48½ —
Long Annuities.....	190 19½	Dutch 2½ per cent.....	— 46
Bank Stock.....	Shut	French 3 per cent.....	25½ 25
India Stock.....	Shut	Mexican 5 per cent.....	101 10½
Exchange Bills—		Portuguese Convtd.....	— 14
March.....	41s. 41s.	Spanish 5 per cent.....	— 28½
June.....	40s. 43s.	Ditto 3 per cent.....	— 3½
India Bonds.....	41s. 44s.		

RAILWAY SHARES.

SHARES.	RAILWAYS.	PAID.	CLOSING PRICE.
100	Aberdeen.....	50	16 18
100	Birmingham and Gloucester.....	100	121 123
3 6 8	Blackwall.....	13 6 8	43 5
100	Brighton.....	50	32½ 32½
100	Bristol and Exeter.....	80	25 20
50	Caledonian.....	50	22½ 23½
50	Chester and Holyhead.....	50	21 23
100	Eastern Counties.....	20	11½ 12½
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow.....	50	40 41
100	Great North of England.....	100	230 235
50	Gr. Southern and Western (Ireland).....	42	18 16
100	Great Western.....	90	80 82
50	Hull and Selby.....	50	98 100
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire.....	86	65 66
50	Lancaster and Carlisle.....	50	51 54
50	Leeds and Bradford.....	50	98½ 99½
100	London and North Western.....	100	125 137
100	Midland.....	100	86 88
100	Norfolk.....	100	46 49
25	North British.....	25	16½ 17
50	Northern and Eastern.....	50	— —
25	Scottish Central.....	25	25 27
50	South Devon.....	50	13 18
33 2 4	South Eastern and Dover.....	3 2 4	24½ 24½
50	South Wales.....	28	21 19
50	South Western.....	50	40 42
100	York and Newcastle.....	25	27 28
25	Ditto original Newcastle & Berw.....	25	27½ 28
25	Ditto new ditto.....	15	14 15½
25	Ditto Preference 6 per Cent.....	8	7½ 8½
100	York and North Midland.....	50	54 56
25	Ditto E. & W. Riding Extension.....	25	26½ 27½
25	Ditto Preference 6 per Cent.....	10	10½ 11
20	Boulogne and Amiens.....	20	8½ 8½
20	Dutch Rhénish.....	7	7½ 6½
20	Northern of France.....	13	8 8½
20	Orleans and Bordeaux.....	7	2½ 2½
20	Paris and Lyons.....	10	4½ 5½
20	Ditto and Orleans.....	20	27 29
20	Ditto and Rouen.....	20	18½ 19½
20	Rouen and Havre.....	20	9½ 10½

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, Dec. 29.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 39 for the week ending on Saturday, the 23rd day of Dec., 1848.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued.....	£28,184,795	Government Debt.....	£11,015,100
		Other Securities.....	£2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion.....	£13,676,846
		Silver Bullion.....	£507,909

£28,184,795

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital.....	£14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity).....	£13,484,162
Reserve.....	£3,380,302	Other Securities.....	£10,814,515
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	£8,573,063	Notes.....	£11,309,335
Other Deposits.....	£8,951,073	Gold and Silver Coin.....	£507,909
Seven-day and other Bills.....	£957,455		

£36,433,893

£36,433,893

Dated the 28th day of December, 1848.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BURCHETT, WILLIAM, Whitechapel-road, chemist.

BANKRUPTS.

COOK, HENRY, Studley, Warwickshire, needle manufacturer. Jan. 18, Feb. 15: solicitors, Mr. Browning, Redditch; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

EMISON, RICHARD, Grantham, scrivener, Jan. 1, Feb. 9: solicitor, Mr. Thompson, Grantham.

LUCK, FREDERICK WILLIAM, Cheltenham, tailor, Jan. 11, Feb. 8: solicitors, Mr. Lindo, King's Arms-yard; and Mr. Packwood, Cheltenham.

SALTMARSH, GEORGE THOMAS, Houndsditch, wine merchant, Jan. 9, Feb. 13: solicitor, Mr. Whittington, Dean-street, Finsbury-place.

STORY, JOHN SAMUEL, St. Alban's, banker, Jan. 11, Feb. 24: solicitor, Mr. Lettis, Bartlett's-buildings.

SPURGE, ROBERT SULLINGS, Halstead, linendraper, Jan. 12, Feb. 9: solicitor, Mr. De Jersey, St. Ann's-lane, Aldersgate.

TAYLOR, SAMUEL, Pepton, Cheshire, butcher, Jan. 12, Feb. 8: solicitors, Messrs. Williamson and Stile, Great James-street, Bedford-row; and Mr. Wormald, Aston-under-Lyne.

WHITWORTH, JOHN, Leeds, millwright, Jan. 19, Feb. 23: solicitors, Mr. Lambert, Gray's-inn; and Mr. Preston, Leeds.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

RICHARDSON, A., Edinburgh, silk mercer, Jan. 4, 26.

SMITH, T. F., Dumfries, writer, Jan. 2, 23.

DIVIDENDS.

E. Alanson, Liverpool, wine merchant, first div. of 10s.; Jan. 1, or any subsequent Monday, at Mr. Bird's, Liverpool—J. Coupland and F. Duncan, Liverpool, merchants, div. of 3s. 10½d., on account of the first div. of 5s., on the separate estate of J. Coupland; Jan. 10, or any subsequent Wednesday, at Mr. Morgan's, Liverpool—D. Williams, Ruthin, Denbighshire, cattle dealer, second div. of 4½d.; any Thursday, at Mr. Turner's, Liverpool—J. E. Warden and V. Wanostrocht, Liverpool, merchants, fourth div. of 2½d.; Jan. 10, or any subsequent Wednesday, at Mr. Morgan's, Liverpool—J. S. Dainty and J. Ryle, Manchester, bankers, third div. of 3½d.; Jan. 16, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pott's, Manchester—J. L. Bourdon and P. J. Meugens, Finch-street, Whitechapel, sugar refiners, second div. of 1½d., and first and second div. of 3s. 5½d., on new proofs; Dec. 30, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry—G. Clarke, Isham and Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire, carpet manufacturer, first div. of 6d.; Dec. 30, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry—J. Notting, Poole, Dorsetshire, currier, second div. of 2s. 9½d., and first and second div. of 5s. 9½d., on new proofs; Dec. 30, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

Tuesday, January 2.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

Brockhampton Catholic Chapel, Havant, Hampshire.

BANKRUPTS.

ALEXANDER, JAMES, Great Winchester-street, City, merchant, January 11, February 15: solicitors, Messrs. Crowder and Maynard, Coleman-street.

AMBROSE, JOHN WILLIAM, Bangor, Carnarvonshire, stationer, January 16, February 6: solicitors, Messrs. Clark and Co., Lincoln's-inn-fields; Mr. Griffiths, Bangor; and Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool.

ARNOLD, GEORGE THOMAS, Liverpool, news agent, January 16, February 6: solicitors, Messrs. Sharpe and Co., Bedford-row; and Messrs. Lowndes and Co., Liverpool.

BATCHELOR, FREDERICK, Queenborough, Kent, hay dealer, January 11, February 10: solicitor, Mr. Buchanan, Basinghall-street.

BOURNE, JAMES THWEAT, Dillhorn, Staffordshire, earthenware dealer, January 16, February 13: solicitors, Messrs. Bishop and Twigg, Staffordshire Potteries.

FITZGERALD, JOHN, Portland-place, coal merchant, Jan. 17, Feb. 21: solicitor, Mr. Harrison, Bloomsbury-square.

GAUNT, MATTHEW, Bradford, Yorkshire, grocer, January 23, February 6: solicitors, Mr. Clarke, Southampton-buildings; Messrs. Terry and Watson, Bradford; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

JOHNSTON, JAMES, St. Thomas the Apostle, Devonshire, tea dealer, January 10, February 7: solicitors, Messrs. Makinson and Sanders, Temple; and Mr. Fryer, Exeter.

MATTHEWS, RICHARD, East Reach, Somersetshire, white bread baker, January 10, February 7: solicitors, Messrs. Bailey and Co., Berners-street, Oxford-street; Mr. Terrell, St. Martin's-lane; and Mr. Coles, Taunton.

MAYER, CHARLES, Mark-lane, City, merchant, January 12, February 16: solicitors, Messrs. Marten and Co., Mincing-lane.

OKILL, WILLIAM, Liverpool, sharebroker, January 15, February 5: solicitors, Messrs. Johnson and Co., Temple; and Grocott, Liverpool.

ROTHERAM, HENRY, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, plumber, January 15, February 5: solicitors, Mr. Cutts, South-square, Gray's-inn; Messrs. Lucas and Cutts, Chesterfield; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

SPENDER, JOB, Berkeley-villas, Brixton, builder, January 16, February 20: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Flews, Old Jewry.

STEVENS, HENRY EDWARD, Grays, Essex, grocer, January 10, February 8: solicitor, Mr. Buchanan, Basinghall-street.

TAYLOR, ALFRED KINSEY, Ledbury, Herefordshire, draper, January 18, February 22: solicitors, Messrs. Mottram and Co., Birmingham.

TIBBS, JOSIAH, Railway-place, Fenchurch-street, City, wine merchant, January 11, February 10: solicitors, Messrs. Pain and Hatherly, Basinghall-street.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ANDERSON, JAMES, Edinburgh, dealer in railway shares, January 11, February 8.

BLACK, WILLIAM, Airdrie, engineer, January 8, February 2.

COMBER, MICHAEL JAMES, Burnend of Carnousie, farmer, January 8 and 29.

OLDHAM, THOMAS, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire, railway contractor, January 6, February 3.

RATTRAY, JAMES, and RATTRAY, WILLIAM, Dundee, brewers, January 5 and 26.

ROBERTSON, HELEN (or LAMB), Old Meldrum, merchant, January 8 and 29.

WATSON, ROBERT, jun., Paisley, manufacturer, January 8 and 29.

DIVIDENDS.

J. R. Beard, Cheapside, City, warehouseman, first div. of 13s. 4d.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers—J. Bentley, St. John-street-road, linendraper, first div. of 2s. 9½d.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers—T. Burton, Commercial-road, Lambeth, builder, first div. of 10d.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers—J. Clark and F. H. L. Clark, Pudding-lane, City, ship and insurance brokers, first div. of 2s.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers—J. Gomersall, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, corn miller, first div. of 4s. 4s.; any Tuesday, at Hope's, Leeds—T. Hanson, Clough Bottom, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturer, second div. of 1s. 1½d., and first and second div. of 7s. 7½d.; any Tuesday, at Hope's, Leeds—J. W. Hooper, Holloway-road, statuary, first div. of 2s.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers—J. Lowe and T. F. R. Shaw, Birmingham, factors, first dividend of 8½d.; payable any Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham—A. McDonald, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, confectioner, first div. of 4s., on new proofs; January 6, and any subsequent Saturday, at Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—T. Martens, Middlesborough, Yorkshire, merchant, first div. of 1s.; January 1, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Hope's, Leeds—J. Prosser, Piccadilly, goldsmith, second div. of 10d.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers—H. Regless and F. Skerratt, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross, woollen drapers, first div. of 4s. 6d.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers—J. Senior, Kinkheaton, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer, third div. of 5-12th of 1d., and first and second div. of 4d. and 1½d.; January 2, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Hope's, Leeds—F. Young, Basinghall-street, City, woollen draper, first div. of 2s. 4d.; any Thursday, at Pennell's, Guildhall-chambers.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Jan. 1.

Our supply of English Wheat was very limited to-day, and fine samples were taken more readily by the millers at fully former prices. We had more buyers of foreign Wheat, both free and in bond, but to effect sales of any quantity lower terms were submitted to. The Flour trade was very heavy, but not cheaper. Owing to further large arrivals of foreign Barley prices were fully 1s. lower, and sales very limited. Malt very dull. Beans and Peas sold slowly, and 1s. cheaper. Foreign Rye was offered on lower terms, but met very little demand. In Oats we had not much doing, though the arrivals were not large, and good qualities offered fully 1s. per qr. under former prices. Linseed and Cakes dull sale. Tares continue very dull. Nothing yet doing in Cloverseed. The current prices are as under.

Wheat—	s.	d.	Malt, Ordinary.....	s.	d.
Essex, Suffolk, and Kent, Red.....	36	50	Fine.....	58	60
Ditto White.....	38	48	Rye.....	28	30
Linc., Norfolk, and Yorksh. Red.....	40	47	Peas, Hog.....	32	35
Northumber. and Scotch, White.....	40	45	Maple.....	32	36
Ditto Red.....	38	43	Boilers (new).....	32	34
Devon, and Somerset, Red.....	38	43	Beans, Ticks.....	30	35
Ditto White.....	42	50	Pigeon.....	32	33
Flour, per sk. (Town).....	41	46	Harrow.....	26	36
Barley.....	25	33	Oats, Feed.....	17	20½
Scotch.....	24	28	Fine.....	22	24

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR DEC. 23.	AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.
Wheat..... 47s. 6d.	Wheat..... 49s. 7d.
Barley..... 31 4	Barley..... 32 3
Oats..... 18 4	Oats..... 19 6
Rye..... 29 1	Rye..... 30 0
Beans..... 33 7	Beans..... 35 9
Peas..... 37 10	Peas..... 39 6

DUTIES.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat.....	8	0	Rye.....	2	0
Barley.....	2	0	Beans.....	2	0
Oats.....	3	0	Peas.....	2	0

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Jan. 1.

From our principal grazing districts the arrivals of Beasts fresh up this morning were seasonably good as to number, and of fair average quality. Notwithstanding the attendance of both town and country buyers was good, and the weather decidedly favourable for slaughtering, the Beef trade was in a very inactive state, at Friday's depression in the quotations of 2d. per 8lbs., and at which a total clearance was not effected. The highest figure for the best Scots was 4s. 2d. per 8lbs. There was a considerable increase in the supply of Sheep, owing to which, the demand for that description of stock was heavy, at a decline in the prices of Monday last of quite 2d. per 8lbs. The extreme currency for the best old Downs was from 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per 8lbs. Half-breds and long wools were particularly dull. Although the supply of Calves was limited, the Veal trade ruled dull; but we have no further decline to notice in prices. We have to report a slight improvement in the demand for the best Pigs, at full currencies. Otherwise, the Pork trade was dull. To show the extent of the heaviness of the trade in to-day's market, we may observe that Beef was selling at from 2d. to 10d., Mutton 6d., Veal 10d., and Pork 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. lower than at the corresponding period in 1848.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday.... 969	4,920	150	100
Monday.. 3,891	21,690	75	150

Price per stone of 8lbs. (stinking the offal).

Beef..... 3s. 2d. to 4s. 2d.	Veal..... 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton..... 3 2 .. 4 10	Pork..... 3 10 .. 4 8

NEWCASTLE AND LEANING MARKETS, Monday, Jan. 1.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass	Per 10lbs. by the carcass
Inferior Beef 2s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.	Int. Mutton 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.
Middling do 2 10 .. 3 0	Mid. ditto.. 3 6 .. 3 10
Prime large 3 2 .. 3 4	Prime ditto 4 0 .. 4 4
Prime small 3 4 .. 3 6	Veal..... 3 6 .. 4 4
Large Pork 3 6 .. 4 4	Small Pork.. 4 2 .. 4 8

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.

Our markets last week were steady; business, as customary at the season, slow and limited. Nothing of importance was done in Irish. Butter: no change in prices. Foreign met buyers to a moderate extent, and for the best at rather higher rates. For Irish singed Bacon the demand was fair, supplies short from contrary winds; prices in consequence the turn higher. Bale and tierce middles, Irish and American, in small request. Prices nominal. American singed sides more saleable and the turn dearer. Hams less sought after. Prices cheaper. Lard: no change.

CHEESE MARKET, Jan. 1.—We have but little alteration to report since our last. The stocks of English in this market are very light, and the great bulk of inferior quality. Good and fine goods meet a ready sale; but the large stock and low prices of American militates against the sale of middling and inferior English. Foreign continues to come in, in good supply; and the moderate rates at which it is selling causes it to go off as fast as it comes in. Prices are nominal. In exportation the business doing is very trivial. We hope for better times soon.

ENGLISH BUTTER MARKET, Jan. 1.—With the new year we should have been pleased to report an improvement in our trade, but it is not so. Nothing but our very best autumn-made Butter in casks meets sale, and that at a still further reduction in price. Middling and inferior articles remain with us as dead stock, upon which, if nothing unforeseen happen, a great loss must be made; the stock of Irish and Foreign Butter here being very heavy, and chiefly of low qualities. We quote prices as under:—Dorset, fine, 90s. to 94s. per cwt.; Dorset, middling, 76s. to 80s.; Fresh, 8s. to 14s. per dozen.

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.

Seeds of almost every description neglected, and quotations of most articles may be regarded as nominally unaltered. We must, however, reduce the price of Canary several shillings per quarter.

BRITISH SEEDS.

Cloverseed, red 30s. to 35s.; fine, 35s. to 36s.; white, 30s. to 40s.	
Cow Grass (nominal).....	—s. to —s.
Linseed (per qr.).....	sowing 56s. to 60s.; crushing 42s. to 48s.
Linseed Cakes (per 1,000 of 3lbs. each).....	£11 10s. to £12 10s.
Trefoil (per cwt.).....	15s. to 21s.
Rapeseed, new (per last).....	£27 to £28
Ditto Cake (per ton).....	£4 15s. to £5
Mustard (per bushel) white.....	8s. to 10s.; brown nominal.
Canary (per quarter).....	80s. to 85s.; fine 87s. to 97s.
Tares, Winter, per bush.....	10s. 0d. to 10s. 6d.
Caraway (per cwt.).....	28s. to 29s.; new, 30s. to 31s.

FOREIGN SEEDS, &c.

Clover, red (duty 5s. per cwt.) per cwt.....	28s. to 35s.
Ditto, white (duty 5s. per cwt.) per cwt.....	22s. to 45s.
Linseed (per qr.).....	Baltic 42s. to 46s.; Odessa, 42s. to 4

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—FRIDAY.

Taken on speculation this year	Bales.
1847	96,000
1847	291,850
Stock in Liverpool the 31st December, 1847	363,530
1846	438,970
Forwarded unsold this year	61,590
1847	29,740
1847	478,741
Increase of import this year as compared with last	29,810
Increase in stock, as compared with last year	1,392,400
Quantity taken for consumption this year	1,045,300
1847, same period	347,100
Increase of quantity taken for consumption	347,100

SATURDAY.—There has been a good trade demand for Cotton to-day. The sales amount to 6,000 bales, nearly all American; speculators have purchased 600, and exporters 400 bales. The market closes firm, but prices remained unchanged.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, Dec. 30.—The market still continues to be well supplied with vegetables and fruit; except Hot-house Grapes, which are scarce. Pine-apples are plentiful. Among Pears we remarked good specimens of Chaumontelle, Glout Moreau, Ne Plus Meuris, and Old Colmar. Nuts in general are sufficient for the demand; Oranges and Lemons are plentiful. Amongst Vegetables, Carrots and Turnips are abundant and good; Cauliflowers, Broccoli, &c., sufficient for the demand. Some Asparagus and French Beans, Rhubarb, and Seakale, have made their appearance. France, Belgium, and Holland still contribute considerably to the stock of Potatoes. The foreign ones fetch about £5 a ton; the very best home-grown ones about £11 a ton. Lettuce and other salad are sufficient for the demand. Mushrooms are rather plentiful. Cut Flowers consist of Heaths, Pelargoniums, Camellias, Gardenias, Fuchsias, and Roses.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 1.—We have a fair inquiry for the finer descriptions of Hops, at rather improved rates, but in other sorts we have a very limited business doing.

POTATOES, SOUTHWARK WATERSIDE, Jan. 1.—Our market is well supplied with every sort of Potatoe, particularly from France. The demand for the latter is good; but all other sorts meet a heavy sale, and it is seldom our highest quotations are realised, the bulk going off at the lowest. The following are this day's prices:—Yorkshire Regents, 140s. to 170s.; Newcastle and Stockton ditto, 100s. to 120s.; Scotch ditto, 100s. to 120s.; Ditto Cups, 60s. to 80s.; Ditto Reds, 60s. to 80s.; Ditto Whites, 60s. to 70s.; French ditto, 70s. to 95s.; Dutch ditto, 40s. to 60s.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 1.—Since our last report this market, from the heavy stock of foreign and home-made Tallow, has ruled exceedingly dull, at a further decline in the quotations of from 6d. to 9d. per cwt. P.Y.C. on the spot, is selling at only 42s. per cwt. The transactions for forward delivery are trifling in the extreme. Town Tallow, 42s. 6d. to 43s. per cwt., net cash; rough fat, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d. per 8 lbs.

COAL MARKET, Monday, Jan. 1.

Hettons, 19s.; Stewart's, 19s.; Tees, 18s. 6d.; Eden Main, 18s. 3d.; Hudson Hartlepool, 17s. 6d.—Fresh arrivals, 303; left from last day, 23; total, 326.

THE COLONIAL MARKETS—Tuesday Evening.

PRODUCE.—MINGING-LANE, Jan. 2.—The Sugar market opened with a steady and good demand to-day, and prices must be considered 6d. to 1s. higher than at the close of the market previous to the holidays. 500 hhds. West India, 2,500 bags Bengal, and 2,700 bags of Madras, sold at that advance. Refined has been active. Grocery lumps, 47s. 6d. to 51s., which is fully 1s. 6d. advance on the lowest point in December.

COFFEE.—The importer bought in largely of the Plantation. Ceylon offered in public sale at very high prices; but 700 bags sold at 2s. to 3s. above the closing prices previous to the holidays. Good ordinary native Ceylon is now firm at 32s., 32s. 6d. None offered in public sale to-day.

ADVERTISEMENT.

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

JUBILEE FUND.

THE COMMITTEE respectfully remind Sunday and Day-school Teachers that SUNDAY NEXT is the day proposed on which to collect One Penny from each Teacher and Child, in aid of the JUBILEE FUND. The gratuitous grants of the Society to Sunday and Day-schools amount to nearly £14,000.

Schools are requested to remit the sum received, by post-office order, to Mr. WILLIAM TANN, No. 56, Paternoster-row, London.

THE REGISTERED ADAMANTINE TEETH.

J. BEAVERS and Co., Successors of the late J. Mr. Thomas Beavers, who for more than forty years enjoyed the extensive patronage of the public, having succeeded in perfecting the above newly discovered teeth, beg to submit them to the notice of their numerous patrons and the public generally.

Some of the advantages of the Adamantine Teeth are, that they will not decay, change colour, break, or become in the least degree offensive. They can be fixed from one tooth to a complete set without extracting the stumps, or giving any pain whatever. J. B. and Co.'s charges are strictly moderate.

Irregularities in Children's Teeth carefully corrected. No charge for consultations.

J. Beavers and Co., Successor Dentists to his late R. H. the Duke of Sussex, 29, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket.

S. S. BENSON'S £4 15s. GOLD WATCHES

—the same movements, in silver cases, at £2 15s.—at his manufactory, 63, CORNHILL, three doors from Bishopsgate-street.—S. S. BENSON begs respectfully to inform the public that while his entire stock of gold and silver watches are marked at the lowest possible price, no watch shall be put into the hands of his customers unless it is in every respect such as can be recommended. A large and beautiful stock can be selected from. Highly-finished movements, four holes jewelled, rich gold dials, and every improvement. A written warranty for two years, and sent post-free upon receipt of Post-office or banker's order. A splendid stock of fine gold chains at their weight for sovereigns. N.B.—The large profits usually charged upon watches have induced the proprietor to manufacture the whole of his stock, and the great quantity sold enables him to make them at the above very low prices. A discount of five per cent. allowed where two or more watches are taken.—63, Cornhill.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Boots and Shoes, soled with this material, being eminently non-conductors of heat, are exceedingly pleasant wear for tender feet, and, however slight the soles, impenetrable by showers or salt water, therefore invaluable to SPORTSMEN, TOURISTS, and VISITORS to the SEA-SIDE.

The idea that atmospheric heat has any detrimental effect upon Gutta Percha is a FALLACY; and in no known instance have soles failed in adhering which may not be ascribed to neglect of the Company's printed directions.

The more recent productions in Gutta Percha are elaborate cernices, highly enriched console tables, mouldings, panelings, picture frames, &c., in every variety of finish and relief, dessert services, flower vases, fountains, inkstands, medallions, buckets, bowls, bottles, paper weights, pen trays, &c. Tubing of all sizes from one-eighth of an inch to four inches in diameter. For lining cisterns, sinks, galvanic troughs and batteries, Gutta Percha offers innumerable advantages; and being impervious to water, unaffected by acids, alkalis, &c., it may fairly be said to be the discovery of the age. May be had of the GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY, 18, Wharf-road, City-road, and of any of their wholesale dealers.

RICHARD A. C. LOADER respectfully solicits all parties about to furnish, and requiring Furniture, to inspect his Stock, which will be found to consist of the newest designs of furniture, of the best seasoned materials, at the lowest possible prices.

Spanish mahogany easy chairs, in real morocco leather, £ s. d.	
stuffed all hair, and spring seats, with continuation	
mahogany mouldings to the backs, on patent castors	2 12 0
Mahogany sweep-back chairs, with Trafalgar seats,	
stuffed with all best horse-hair, in hair seating,	
carved splat polished	0 14 6
Sets of six, and two elbow, mahogany roll-over top	
Trafalgar chairs, in hair seating	5 5 0
Solid rosewood cabriolet drawing-room chairs, all hair	
stuffing	0 18 6
Rosewood couch to match, with cabriolet front, spring	
stuffing	4 17 6
Solid rosewood chairs, stuffed, and covered in damask	
Rosewood couch to match	4 0 0
Mahogany couch, in hair cloth	3 13 6
Ditto, all best hair, and fine Spanish mahogany	6 6 0
Four-foot solid mahogany lute table, French polished ..	2 12 0
Four-foot fine mahogany lute table, with star top (very	
elegant)	4 14 6
Five-foot lath or sacking bottom four-post bedstead,	
with eight-foot mahogany pillars and cornices, or	
poles	4 14 6
Ditto, very superior	£5 15s. 6d.
Four-post mahogany bedstead, without cornices	2 12 6
Japanned French bedsteads, all sizes and colours	1 3 6
Superior ditto	1 9 0
Mahogany half-tester bedstead, with cornices	3 10 0
Chimney glasses, in gilt frames	£2 2s to 10 10 0
Dressing glasses, in mahogany frames	5s. to 1 12 0

RICHARD A. C. LOADER,

24, PAVEMENT, FINSBURY, LONDON.

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS, PRICE TEN GUINEAS.

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS, which has now become so celebrated, consists of twelve pair of zinc and silver plates, and a most complete regulating apparatus, with wire, handles, &c. The whole is contained in a neat mahogany box, about two feet long, one foot high, and one foot broad; and when in action it is an ornament to any drawing-room, and is, in short, perfection itself. From the weakest to the strongest power there are fifteen gradations, the use of which is described in Mr. Halse's sixth and seventh letters on Medical Galvanism, to which he begs to call the reader's attention. The extraordinary cures he has made by means of Galvanism have so astonished the whole medical world, that he is now justly patronized by the highest of the medical profession; and, although it may not be believed, it is still, nevertheless, a fact, and well known to his numerous patients, that he has generally one or two gentlemen of the medical profession under him as patients. To galvanize between forty and fifty patients a day, as Mr. Halse and his assistants are in the habit of doing, it is absolutely necessary that the galvanic apparatus should be brought to the height of perfection; and such, he flatters himself, he has accomplished, as the undermentioned testimonials will prove.

The apparatus is constructed on so simple a principle, that the most unscientific will not have the least difficulty in using it, as the fullest instructions are given how to use it, and also medical advice how to apply it, by the patient minutely describing his complaint. Therefore patients in the country need not go to the expense of a journey to London, as they can galvanize themselves by means of this apparatus, at their own residences, and with perfect safety, as the power can be regulated so accurately that an infant may be galvanised with it, without even causing it to cry; and in a moment the power of it can be so increased that the most powerful man would not like to receive its influence a second time. The most timid need not be afraid of using it, as the power of it is entirely under command.

The following are a few extracts from the Press, in addition to those previously inserted:—

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—From the *Wesleyan*.—"That Mr. Halse stands high as a medical galvanist, and that he is generally considered as the head of his profession, are facts which we have long known; but we did not know until very recently that he had brought the galvanic apparatus to such a high state of perfection, that an invalid may galvanize himself with the most perfect safety. We happen to know something of galvanism ourselves, and we can truly say that his apparatus is far superior to anything of the kind we ever beheld. To those of our invalid friends, therefore, who may feel desirous of testing the remedial powers of galvanism, we say, apply at once to the fountain head. To secure beneficial results, it is necessary, as we can from experience assert, to be galvanised by an apparatus constructed on the best principles; for, although the sensation experienced from the smallest machines of the common construction during the operation is very similar to that experienced by Mr. Halse's machines, yet the effects afterwards produced are vastly different, the one producing a feeling of exhaustion, and the other a feeling of renewed vigour. Mr. Halse particularly recommends galvanism for the restoration of muscular power in any part of the body which may be deficient of it."

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—The following is extracted from the *Magazine of Science* for April:—"We are continually in receipt of letters from medical men, inquiring the best form of Galvanic Apparatus for medical purposes, the essential requisites being constancy of action, and to be always ready for use at a moment's notice. To those medical friends we reply, write to Mr. Halse, and order one of his Portable Galvanic Apparatus, and you may take our word for it you will find them all that you can desire. His battery is constructed of zinc and silver plates, and he has so arranged his regulating apparatus, that the practitioner may apply just what power he may think proper. It is the most perfect thing we ever beheld; and we do not see how it is possible, for medical purposes, to improve upon it. It is well known that quantity of fluid is the great desideratum in medical galvanism. Now, in the small machines which are usually sold, it is very evident to any one who knows anything of the principles of galvanism, that the quantity of fluid which circulates through the body of the patient is next to nothing, although the shock may be very powerful; for the human body is an imperfect conductor, and it requires a series of pairs of plates to enforce the current through an imperfect conductor. In Mr. Halse's apparatus there are both quantity and intensity brought into action; and yet his machine is constructed in so beautiful a manner that even an infant may be galvanised by it without the least unpleasantness. As men of science, we conscientiously recommend Halse's Portable Galvanic Apparatus in preference to all others."

GALVANISM.—The application of Galvanism as a medical agent appears to be all the rage in the metropolis. Its professors have played the very deuce with the Cold-water Doctors, for the Medical Galvanists pretend to accomplish fully as much as the Hydropathists; and, as the cold-water treatment is, without doubt, a very disagreeable one, whilst the galvanic treatment has nothing disagreeable about it, patients now generally resort to the latter. Mr. W. H. Halse may be considered the leader in this new branch of medical science, for whoever heard of galvanic rings, galvanic bracelets, garters, bands, &c., before he made galvanism so popular? If galvanism be as powerful a remedial agent as it is pretended to be, the thanks of the invalid public are due to Mr. Halse, and to him alone, for it; for without his extraordinary improvements in the galvanic apparatus, the application of galvanism would be worse than useless. That Mr. Halse ranks high as a Medical Galvanist is evident from the fact that the most eminent physicians of the metropolis invariably recommend their patients to him, where they think galvanism will be of service.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Invalids may be supplied with Mr. HALSE'S Pamphlet on MEDICAL GALVANISM gratuitously, by forwarding him two stamps for the postage of it. His residence is at 23, Brunswick-square, London.

NEW JUVENILE WORKS, FOR PRESENTS OR PRIZE BOOKS, with numerous Pictorial Illustrations, 1s. each sewed, or 1s. 6d. bound in Cloth, with Coloured Titles and Frontispieces.

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ANIMALS FROM NOAH'S ARK, with some regard to their comparative sizes, and useful description under each Animal. In 12 Sheets, at 6d. each Coloured, 4d. Tinted, 3d. plain. Size, whole sheet foolscap. Eight Animals on each sheet. Also, as a Companion Sheet to the above, 1s. Coloured, 6d. Tinted, 4d. Plain; the correct comparative sizes, at one view, of the various Quadrupeds, Birds, Reptiles, &c., seen in the twelve sheets.

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THE extensive celebrity of JOSEPH LOADER'S Establishment, for twenty-five years, for all articles appertaining to the Upholstering Business, affords a certain guarantee to all purchasers from his Stock, that whatever they may select will be of the most approved Fashion and best workmanship, moderately charged.

A tasteful assortment, suitable to the decoration of the Dining, Drawing-room, Library, and Boudoir, is uniformly kept, comprising Chairs, Tables, Pier and Chimney Glasses, Chiffoniers, Drawers, Wardrobes, Carpets, Mattresses, and Bedding, at regularly fixed prices, corresponding with the wants or elegances of Household Economy, offered on terms with which none but first-rate houses can successfully compete.

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PRESENT TARIFF.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Solid rosewood chairs, French polished ..	0 15 0 ea.	to 1 3 0
Sets of eight mahogany ditto	4 4 0 ..	4 10 0
Sets of eight mahogany Trafalgar	4 16 0 ..	5 10 0
Gondola easy chairs (in leather)	1 8 0 ..	1 16 0
Langham easy chairs, spring stuffed	1 1 0 ..	1 8 0
Reclining chairs, in leather, spring		
stuffed	2 0 0 ..	3 5 0
Mahogany lounging chairs, carved		
throughout, spring stuffed, in morocco,		
on patent castors	3 4 0 ..	3 10 0
Couches, with loose squabs, all hair	2 15 0 ..	3 15 0
Mahogany lute tables, French polished ..	2 11 0 ..	2 14 0
Rosewood ditto, on pillars	3 10 0 ..	4 8 0
Rosewood chiffoniers, with carved backs		
and marble tops, 3 ft., carved	3 5 0 ..	3 10 0
4 ft. carved mahogany sideboard, with		
drawers and four doors, cellaretts and		
trays, complete, French polished	4 12 0 ..	5 15 0
Mahogany dining tables, with sliding		
frames, loose leaves, and castors	3 12 6 ..	5 5
Mahogany bedsteads, with cornices or		
poles, sacking or lath bottoms, polished		
superior ditto, massive pillars, carved,		
double screwed, and bracketed round ..	6 6 ..	7 15 6
3-feet 6-inch elliptic wash-stands, mar-		
ble tops	2 12 6 ..	3 12 6
Dressing tables, en suite	2 5 0 ..	3 11 0
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